

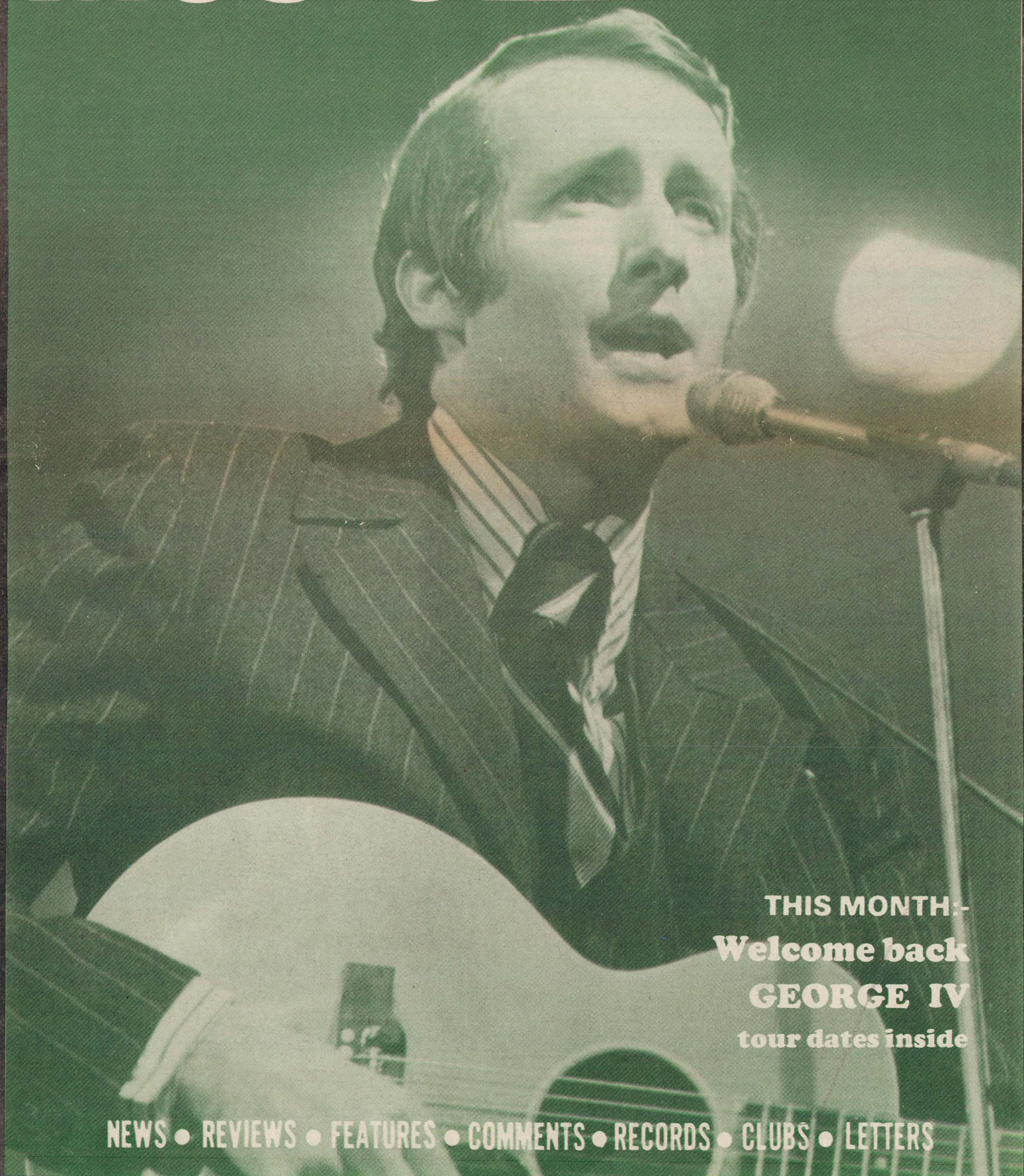
Britain's 1st Country Music Newspaper

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COUNTRY **MUSIC** Round Up

45p

VOL.6 NO.10
SEPTEMBER 1982



THIS MONTH-
Welcome back
GEORGE IV
tour dates inside

NEWS • REVIEWS • FEATURES • COMMENTS • RECORDS • CLUBS • LETTERS

This year three new members will be inducted to the Hall of Fame on the 16th Annual Awards Show October 11th.

CMA ANNOUNCES COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME FINALISTS

Election to the Country Music Hall of Fame is the crowning achievement in the career of a member of the country music industry. The Hall of Fame was founded in 1961 by the Country Music Association and currently has 35 members. Hall of Fame inductees are selected each year by an anonymous panel of 200 electors, each of whom has actively participated in the music business for at least fifteen years, and has made a significant contribution to the industry. These electors vote by secret ballot, the results of which are tallied by the national accounting firm of Deloitte Haskins & Sells. Winners are traditionally announced on the CMA Awards Show in October. The Hall of Fame election itself, is conducted by the Country Music Association. **The finalists and the categories are as follows:—**

PERFORMERS INACTIVE

ROD BRASFIELD personified the 'country comic' in an old brown suit, too large for his small, wiry frame. At 16 he and his brother Lawrence (Uncle Cyp) joined Bisbee's Comedians. They travelled and performed with the tent show for five years. In 1944, Rod Brasfield joined the Grand Ole Opry, where he frequently worked as a single act. But he is best remembered for his dialogues with Minnie Pearl, which live on as country comedy classics. An Opry regular until 1958, he appeared on the Prince Albert show, NBC Network, and Pet Milk Grand Ole Opry.

FLATT & SCRUGGS pioneered a particular type of bluegrass music under the leadership of Bill Monroe. Lester Flatt's vocals and Earl Scrugg's intricate banjo patterns broadened the parameters of bluegrass, while retaining important elements of its structure. After working with Bill Monroe's Bluegrass Boys briefly, Flatt and Scruggs formed their own Foggy Mountain Boys in 1946 and soon joined the Grand Ole Opry. During the next decade, they drew the attention of a growing folk music audience. They performed the theme for TV's 'Beverly Hillbillies' and for the movie 'Bonnie and Clyde'.

LEFTY FRIZZELL was one of country music's most unique song stylists. His appearance on the country music scene in 1950 brought a new and fresh composing and performing talent. A disciple of Jimmie Rodgers, Frizzell was totally different from other Rodgers adherents; his unprecedented string of successful records produced four songs, simultaneously, in country music's top 10, a feat unduplicated to this date. A popular recording artist for over 25 years, his vocal style greatly influenced a number of contemporary performers including Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard.

GEORGE MORGAN, 'The Candy Kid', had one of the most beautiful voices in the history of country music. Born in Waverly, Tennessee in 1925, Morgan first performed regularly on the WWVA Jamboree in Wheeling, West Virginia. His very first Columbia recording, 'Candy Kisses' became the biggest country song of 1949, and shortly thereafter he joined the Grand Ole Opry. A succession of hits followed — 'Room Full Of Roses,' 'Cry Baby Heart,' and 'You're The Only Good Thing,' among others, made him a favourite of concert crowds until his death in 1975.

ERNEST "POP" STONEMAN was born in Carroll County, Virginia, in 1893. His musicianship encompassed the harmonica, banjo, autoharp and Jew's harp. Ralph Peer recorded Stoneman for Okeh in 1924. "The Sinking Of The Titanic", recorded during the session became a major selling record. During the next five years, Stoneman and his wife and family recorded more than 200 titles on several labels, making Stoneman the first popular exclusively country artist. Pop formed a family band in the 1940's and several of his children became accomplished musicians.

PERFORMERS AND NON-PERFORMERS ACTIVE

JIMMIE DICKENS was born in Bolt, West Virginia in 1925. He gained his entertainment experience on radio stations throughout the Midwest, and began performing as Jimmy the Kid. He was a member of Johnny Bailes' Happy Valley Boys, and joined the Grand Ole Opry in 1948. Identified primarily as a singer of novelty songs, Little Jimmy Dickens has had notable hits such as 'Take An Old Cold Tater And Wait,' 'Out Behind The Barn,' and 'Hillbilly Fever,' among others.

BENNY 'WHITEY' FORD, The Duke of Paducah, is best known for his memorable tag line, 'I'm goin' to the wagon, these shoes are killin' me.' Born in DeSoto, Missouri, his entertainment experience began in 1924 when he began travelling with the Oklahoma Cowboys as emcee-comedian. He emceed Gene Autry's travelling show and had his own Plantation Party Show on WLW, Cincinnati for nine years. A member of the Renfro Valley Barn Dance, he joined the Grand Ole Opry in the mid-1940's. A pioneer instrumentalist, Ford played banjo on the WLS Barn Dance.

BRADLEY KINCAID, a native of Kentucky, was one of country music's first stars. An avid student of folksong, Kincaid began performing mountain ballads on the WLS Barn Dance while attending college in Chicago. He was a member of the WLW Boone County Jamboree in Cincinnati from 1942-44, and joined the Grand Ole Opry in 1944. Kincaid pioneered folk ballads and country music on radio in Boston, Hartford, and other Northeastern markets, and made a monumental contribution in the projection and preservation of folk song as an integral part of country music.

MARTY ROBBINS has from the first written and sung music for the whole country. He enjoyed airplay on country and pop radio long before the word 'crossover' entered music lexicon. With 18 number one singles, more than 500 songs in his list of compositions, and over 25 BMI certificates of achievement, Marty has chalked up an impressive number of accomplishments in the music industry. Born in Arizona, he has recorded for Columbia for many years; he was the first winner of a Grammy Award for a country song 'El Paso,' the first Nashville artist to be booked in Las Vegas, and the first person to perform at the new Opry House.

FLOYD TILLMAN, a native of Oklahoma, is an accomplished musician and songwriter. During the 1930's, he played Houston honky-tonks, and was in the Mark Clark Dance Band before forming the Blue Ridge Playboys. One of his first compositions, 'It Makes No Difference Now,' was recorded for Decca by Tillman, himself—the first of more than one hundred recordings of this country classic. By 1967, more than two hundred Tillman compositions had been recorded. His 'Slippin' Around' was a milestone song in country music and his own recording of 'I Love You So Much, It Hurts' sold more than one million records. A unique vocalist, Tillman is remembered as one of country's great 'hurlin' singers.

NON-PERFORMERS—ACTIVE OR INACTIVE

ROY HORTON, born in Pennsylvania's Allegheny Mountains, was first a coal miner, then an entertainer, and developed a reputation as one of the most versatile recording specialists in country music. In the late 1940's, he joined the Peer-Southern Organisation, where he soon became a top music publishing executive and compiled an impressive list of credits for promoting hit songs and country superstars. As a charter member of the Country Music Association, his dedicated efforts on behalf of CMA and the Country Music Foundation are legend. As CMA Chairman of the Board, he cut the ribbon to open the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1967.

**COUNTRY
MUSIC**

HALL OF FAME FINALISTS

continued on page

U.K. Tour 1982 George Hamilton IV and "The Numbers" with their very special guest star—

Direct From Canada:
Miss Cathie Stewart.

September

3rd/4th Starlight, Enfield
5th Festival Hall, Corby
8th Commadore, Nottingham
10th Spectrum Leisure Centre, Warrington
11th Town Hall, Oakengate
12th Floral Pavilion, New Brighton
15th Civic Centre, Aldershot
16th/17th Barbican Centre, London
18th Hexagon, Reading
19th Wyvern Theatre, Swindon
21st Fairfield Hall, Croydon
22nd Queens Hall, Barnstable
23rd Art Centre, Poole
24th Barbican Centre, London
25th White Rock, Hastings
26th Neil Gwen, Hereford (T.B.C.)
27th Gate House, Stafford
28th Pebble Mill TV (T.B.C.)
29th Barbican Centre, London
30th Civic Hall, Tonbridge Wells
October
1st Leisure Centre, Crawley
2nd Sunset Rooms, Wisbech - St. Mary
3rd Theatre Royal, Norwich
5th Motherwell
6th/7th Eden Court, Inverness

8th Loch Gelly Centre, Fife
10th Empire, Sunderland
13th Night-Out, Birmingham
14th Civic, Aylesbury
15th Central Hall, Chatham
16th Civic, Borehamwood
17th Cliff's Pavilion, Southend
20th Pavilion, Worthing
21st Leascliff Pavilion, Folkestone
22nd/23rd Lakeside Country Club
24th Alfred Beck, Hayles
26th City Hall, St. Albans
29th Leeds International
30th Royal Spa, Leamington Spa
31st Tameside Theatre, Ashton
November
2nd Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen
5th Southport, (T.B.C.)
6th Taffarn Theatre, Newtown, Mid Wales
7th St. David's Hall, Cardiff
10th Winter Gardens, Margate
11th Johnston Hall, Yeovil
12th Town Hall, Hammersmith
14th Palace Theatre, Plymouth
20th Kings Club, Eastbourne





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★★★★★

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CMA List Hall Of Fame Finalists

The Country Music Association has announced the finalists for election to the Country Music Hall Of Fame, an honour considered to be the pinnacle of achievement in the country music industry. The full list of finalists and their categories are listed on page 2. Inductees will be announced during the 16th. Annual CMA Awards Show at the Grand Ole Opry House on October 11. Hosting the Awards Show for the second year running will be Barbara Mandrell and Mac Davis.

Opry Original Dies Age 82

DeFord Bailey, the first coloured man to become a member of the Grand Ole Opry, died recently in Nashville aged 82. It was Bailey's country version of 'Pan American Blues' which paved the way for 'The Solemn Old Judge'. George D. Hay, to utter those immortal words, "For the past hour we have been listening to music taken largely from the Grand Opera, but from now on we will present 'The Grand Ole Opry.'" Throughout his music career DeFord Bailey knew the pain of the colour bar and had claimed that even to his fellow Opry performers he was like a civilised slave.

It was George D. Hay who was eventually responsible for Bailey having to leave the Grand Ole Opry, claiming that he refused new and more commercial material. In later years his bitterness toward the Opry mellowed and he played one of the final shows before the Ryman closed and performed at the new Opry house on his 75th birthday in 1974.

Radio & Television News

Britain's new television channel, Channel 4, set to start transmission in November, has bought a 35 hour music package from a new consortium comprising of I.M.P.C. (Independent Music & Concert Promotions) and Holmes & Associates the film/video company.

The programmes cover a wide range of musical tastes and among them is Willie Nelson, filmed live during his '82 London concerts.

BBC Radio 2's 'Country Club' will have a new transmission time (8.30pm 9.30pm) on Thursday's from mid October. Stan Laundon, presenter of BBC Radio Cleveland's 'Country Time' programme, is scheduled for taping sessions with Jerry Reed at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, where the RCA star is recording. Laundon plans two 90 minute specials on Reed for his listeners.

Exclusive Poacher News

Warrington's own country band Poacher, have released a new single on the Ritz Record label. Titled 'You Are No Angel' it should be available in record shops from 10th September 1982. We're told it has a great sing-a-long chorus line and with enough air-play and sale through the shops it might provide that elusive chart success for the band that have been voted Britain's No.1 Country Group for the last four years.

Farewell Stan - Hello Martin!

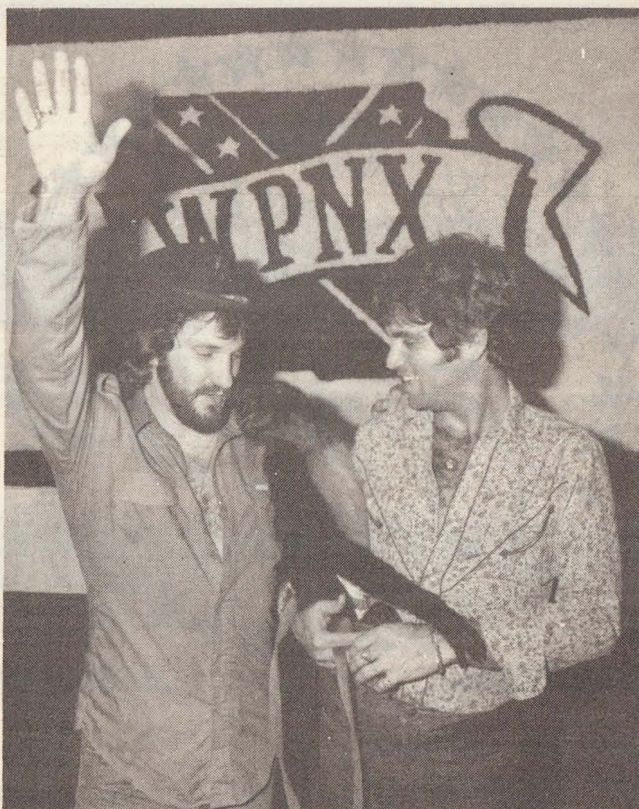
Meanwhile Stan Bennett, a founder member and drummer with Poacher has now left the band to further his interests in the car business. Stan's position has been filled by Martin Duffy, who British fans will remember played previously with 'American

Echoes' and 'The Tammy Cline Band'. With 24 Concert dates Nationwide this month, Poacher's new-look line-up will have ample chance to get 'worked in'. September and October also see's Poacher working on Central Television's production of 'Starburst'.

Name Dropping

Both British members of the CMA Board were prevented from attending the Board meeting at Wheeling, West Virginia, which coincided with the Jamboree In The Hills celebrations. Jeffrey Kruger suffered a blood clot which affected the sight of his left eye and Drew Taylor broke bones and severely strained ligaments in an ankle. Both are now back in action after recuperation.....Ronnie Prophet's new office in Nashville has real grass on its front lawn and possesses a cat named Coco, it's not known if it eats frogs.....Josef Spevacek Jr. would really appreciate any country music correspondence from CMRU readers. Write to: Hradecka 1074/11, 342 01 Susice.

Czechoslovakia.....Scottish band Colorado made their debut behind the Iron Curtain last month when they played the International Country Festival in Budapest.....Mercury/Polygram stars The Statler Brothers have just completed their first country music video for the label which features their current single 'Whatever' culled from their new album 'The Legend Goes On'. The music video combines performance segments of 'Whatever', with four separate conceptual vignettes featuring each of The Statlers - Harold Reid, Don Reid, Phil Balsey and Jimmy Fortune - 'living out' their dream of wooing the beautiful girl on the front row of the audience, including candlelight



Monkey Business ?!.....

There was a lot of monkeying around at WPNX Phoenix City, Alabama recently. RCA recording artist Leon Everett and Sound Waves Records artist Gary Goodnight got together with a baby monkey. Gary brought the most unusual country music fan with him from his Florida home and Leon seems pleased to make his acquaintance

dinner, fur coat, diamond necklace, luxury sports car, southern mansion and a yacht.....What do the stars do on holiday? Well, though The Kendalls new album is titled 'Stickin' Together' they split up for vacation. Royce and his wife Melba, lovely lady, spent some time boating and water skiing on Tennessee's Center Hill Lake while Jeannie and her husband Mack Watkins were racing those three

wheeled motorbikes along the beach at Daytona. Florida.....Among the 'Big' Names on the record label merry go round are Kenny Rogers, from Liberty to RCA, and Crystal Gayle, who moves from Columbia to Elektra.....Harrow CMC's latest charity gig, Wally Whyton and Philomena Begley popped in as surprise guests, raised £350 for the blind. That's over £3,000 John Ryan's mob have raised

Cathie Stewart

Thanks to the televising of the George Hamilton IV Show, Canadian country music and some of its stars have been brought to the attention of audiences throughout the world.

The Canadian artist who has gained the most from this exposure is Cathie Stewart, the strawberry-haired young lady whose rich, strong voice has placed a new emphasis on some of the well known country tunes and who has introduced millions of enthusiastic listeners to her own excellent compositions. At 26 years of age, she is most certainly a young lady whose career is on the rise.

Born and raised near Hamilton, Canada, Cathie Stewart's professional career began after a CTL recording executive listened to her demo tape, which led to Cathie's first album, Country Downs, being released in 1974.

With rave reviews coming from the media, Cathie Stewart had launched herself with useful impact on the country music scene. So much so that when TV producer Manny Pittson needed a strong performer to share the spotlight with George Hamilton IV on the weekly series he chose Cathie Stewart's magical formula....

That same year Cathie Stewart entertained her new found music fans on three separate tours, made appearances on all three major Canadian television networks and saw following the release of her second album, Springhill, the self-penned title track rise to number 21 on the RPM Canadian Music Charts.

Since that time Cathie Stewart who still lives in Canada has kept busy with a variety of club dates, more composing and television work.

Now Cathie Stewart makes her fourth tour of Great Britain. This time sharing the bill with George Hamilton IV on the road rather than behind the TV cameras.





Artists On The Move:

The Thrasher Brothers to Top Billing International. Orion, Rita Remington and Ann Morton to Johnnie Massey at the new Stars, Inc., in Nashville. Charly McClain to International Celebrity Services, which also represents Ricky Skaggs, The Kendalls, Jimmy C. Newman, The Chance Brothers, and Valentino. Shyla and Gene Cotton to the Lavender Agency, Inc. Hank Thompson is now available for bookings for the first time by a Nashville agency, Sro Talent. Sro Talent also has Jimmy Angel, Delta Talent, a division of Delta Records, has available for bookings Bob Wills' Original Texas Playboys and David Houston. Delta's located at 2820 S.E. Stallings Drive, Nacogdoches, Tx. 76961 (713-564-2509).

There's lots of good country music going into USA homes via television in the next few months, including a CBS 60 minutes segment featuring Johnny Cash, wife June and son, John Carter. CBS' Harry Reasoner and the film crew were with the Cashes for more than a week in their Hendersonville home, at Fan Fair, on tour through Georgia and Texas, and at the Southern Baptist Convention.

A two hour syndicated special will salute Conway Twitty: Delta King (at least that was the working title), in celebration of his 25th year as an entertainer. Loretta Lynn, Tammy Wynette, Charley Pride and Dick Clark are among the guests.

Del Reeves will host a new syndicated TV series titled Special Del-Ivery From Nashville and Kenny Starr will host another syndie, The Newcomers. Both begin filming this month. And Razzzy Bailey's show went into production last month; probably to be sold via cable syndication. Glen Campbell will return with another network series. Lulu Roman, Kenny Price, Dottie West and Minnie Pearl are among those appearing on a forthcoming episode of ABC's Love Boat. Loretta Lynn has filmed a segment of ABC's Fantasy Island and will be in New York during early October to film her second NBC-TV Special, tentatively set to air on November 29th.

Tom T.'s Pop! Goes The Country Club, is the new moniker for his Show Biz-Multimedia, Inc., show. Taping have been underway in Nashville with a guest lineup which includes Sylvia, John Conlee, Randy Parton, Chet Atkins, Kippi Brannon, Boots Randolph, Minnie Pearl, Mel Tillis, Wendy Holcombe and Con Hunley. The show is now in its 9th year of production.

Barbara Mandrell and Mac Davis will co-host the Country Music Association's 16th Annual Awards Show, live from the Grand Ole Opry House at 8:30pm on October 11th. The CMA Awards show is traditionally the first event of Deejay Week and will be carried by CBS.

Sympathies:-

Our deepest sympathies to Helen Cornelius, Louis Cornelius and family on the death of their son, Joseph (Joey) Cornelius, of Columbia, Tn. The twenty-year old construction worker, who rode bulls as a 'hobby' was killed in a rodeo accident in Lawrenceburg, Tn., when he was thrown, bored and tromped by a bull he was attempting to ride.

Sympathies are also extended to Ken and Barbara Mandrell Dudley, their family and friends, on the death of his mother, Beth Kurtz, from cancer recently. Ms. Kurtz was involved in her daughter in-law's career through her presidency of her international fan club operation.

At press date long-time Opry and Hee Haw favourite, Jimmy Riddle, is critically ill with cancer at his home in Nashville. Riddle has been a member of Roy Acuff's Smokey Mountain Boys for more than a quarter-century....Doyle Wilburn, half of the singing Wilburn Brothers act, of the Grand Ole Opry and syndicated television, is also gravely ill in Nashville with cancer.

The "other" Coal Miner's Daughter welcomes a new daughter. Sissy Spacek and husband, Jack Fisk, have recently welcomed their first child. Schuyler Elizabeth checked in at 7lbs. 20zs.

Didja Know:

Webb Peirce and Willie Nelson have just wound up work on a duet album.....That Leona Williams has taped her first guest shot on the long running weekly syndicated Nashville Music and recorded a duet album with husband, Merle Haggard, for Polygram Records.

Jame T. 'Happy' Shahan says he plans to sell or convert to private use his Alamo Village, 'The Movie Capitol of Texas', where 20 major motion pictures and television shows have been filmed over the last 31 years. His \$4 million asking price includes a section of land, the largest reproduction of the Alamo ever built, and an authentic 1800's western town that includes a jail, saloons, general stores, an often-robbed bank, hotels schools, church and other buildings. Whether or not he sells the town, Shahan says this probably will be the last summer Alamo Village is open daily to tourists. He plans to devote more time to raising Longhorns and other interests, such as managing a number of young performers, including Valentino. He formerly was credited with managing Johnny Rodriguez and Dottsie.

Margo Smith wed her Manager, Indiana businessman Richard Cammeron in Ft. Wayne, July 24....T.G. Sheppard co-hosted three segments of Don Kirshner's Country Jamboree in Los Angeles recently. Speaking of 'The Good Sheppard', he recently gifted wife Diana, with a Rolls Royce, purchased from Mickey Gilley, on the occasion of their 17th wedding anniversary.

The first annual Jimmie Rodgers Old Time Country Music Celebration in Jackson, Ms., August 13-14-15 had no amplified instruments permitted. Performers included Wilma Lee Cooper and The Clinch Mountain Clan, Patsy Montana, Bob Everhart, Van Williams and the Leake County String Band. Special guest Jimmy Dale Court, grandson of 'The Singing Brakeman'.

Winter wanderers can spend their travel time listening to Eddie Rabbitt, who just recorded an hour-long TWA in-flight musical special in Las Vegas, to play throughout November and December. Also, while in Vegas, Eddie Saluted America's military when he recorded specials for the AFRN and for President Ronald Reagan's jet, Air Force One.

MCA's Ed Bruce sings the National Anthem at two of Tennessee's most famous horse shows this season. Last month he was at the International Show in Murfreesboro, and he's at the Celebration on September 1st in Shelbyville.

We hear Ricky Skaggs is the proud owner of a new touring bus.

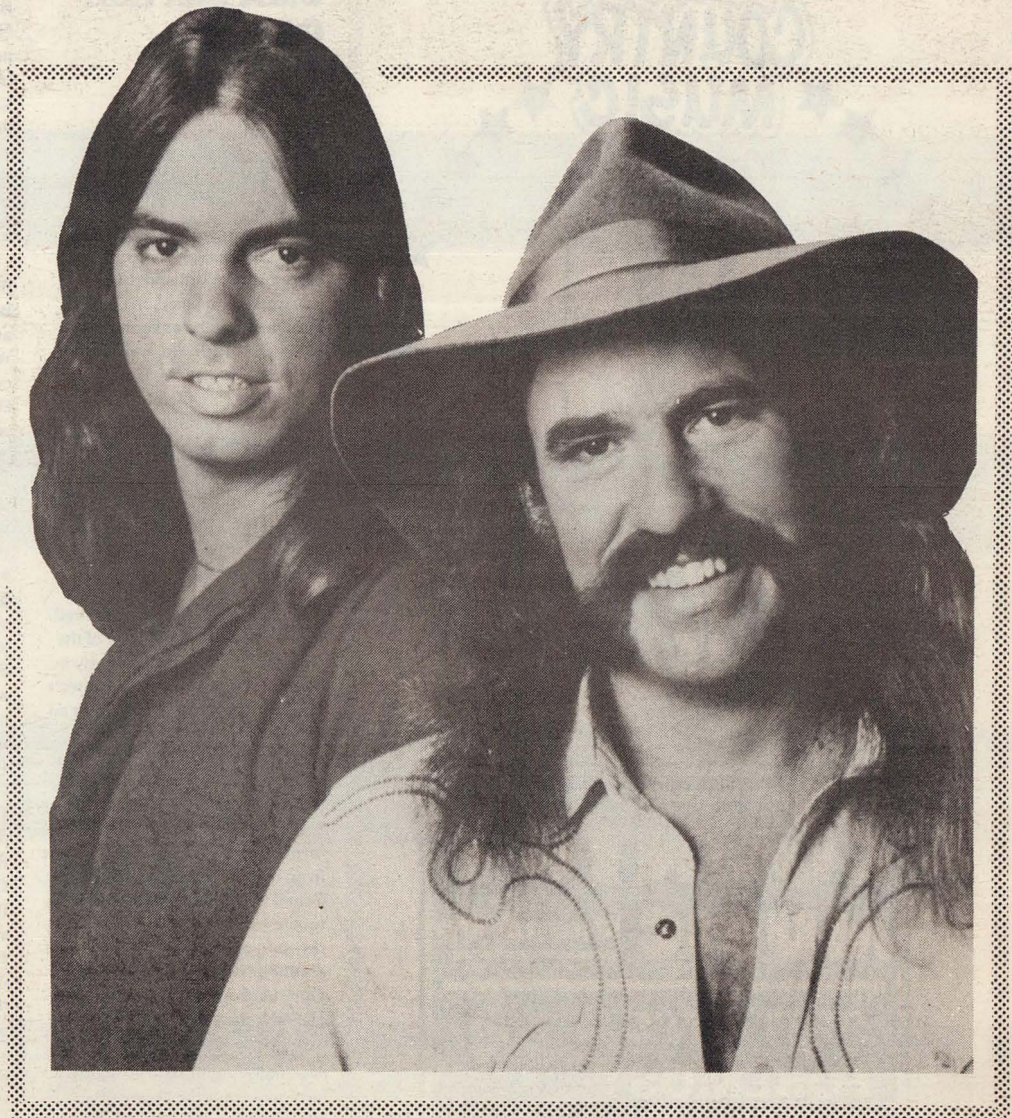
Jimmy C. Newman and Boxcar Willie both recently lost their tour bus in fires!

Chris LeDoux left his Wyoming ranch long enough this summer to get back into rodeoing. He placed 2nd in Laramie and tied for 2-3-4 in Sheridan, Wy. Not bad for somebody who's gotten more accustomed to baling hay or picking his guitar. Didja' know Salt Lake City, Utah reports indicate Chris is the number 1 album seller in that city? His 'I Used To Want To Be A Cowboy' is charting in Boston, too, so watch out!

Roy Clark on the difference in music: "Sometimes it's hard to tell where country music ends and pop music begins. I think of all music as different branches of a tree. Country music is the trunk. The un-amplified sound. It's now a new kind of music somebody just thought up. Country music is people playing and singing for their own entertainment. I believe in keeping the basic country music, the pure form, alive. We've got to work at keeping it, because if that trunk ever dies, it's all going to go -- the branches, the leaves and everything else."

Speaking of Clark, his 8th Annual Celebrity Golf Classic is gearing up for September 10-12 at Cedar Ridge Country Club in Tulsa.

Ray Burdett, bass singer for the Loretta Lynn show vocal backup team, was on the phone recently to info., they now have available their first recording. The troupe, fondly nicknamed The Kids by their boss-lady, have cut an extended play offering, which includes a medley that is a proven hit with concert goes all over the country, "Bobbie Sue", and "Walk Down That Lonesome Road."



Didja' hear about Willie Nelson's concert in Lima, Ohio? Seems Nelson does, indeed, have a heart as big as Texas. He was asked to travel to Lima, one of the country's most "economically depressed" cities, where he donated his performance to benefit the city's treasury. We have no reports as to proceeds but that has to be one super gesture on Willie's part.

The Oak Ridge Boys' new two minute-forty second video tape, made to promote their 'So Fine' offering, premiered July 19th at the New Music Seminar in New York and began airing in mid-August on more than 700 college campuses and in record stores and rock clubs nationwide. By September, the tape should skirt the Atlantic and begin showing in Europe.

The Bellamy Brothers rustled up \$43,500 for Lambs Farm, a residential centre for retarded adults, in Chicago. The date turned out to be one of the Windy City's biggest windfalls for charity - and the largest amount raised in the Farm's eight years of benefits.

The Kitty Wells-Johnny Wright Country Junction opened in downtown Madison, Tn., August 1st. Miniature old trains being featured, along with Kitty's Country Kitchen and the old car used in the Coal Miner's Daughter movie, will be featured in the museum.

Playboy magazine is currently preparing a feature story on Tammy Wynette.

Tri-Son Country Singles

COMPILED IMPARTIALLY each month using individual chart listings received at this office. This month's reporting stations:

KSOP-Salt Lake City, Ut.; WBRD-Bradenton, Fl.; KTOM-Salinas, Ca.; WKLM-Wilmington, N.C.; KVOO-Tulsa, Ok.; WWVA-Wheeling, W.V.; WNGC-Athens, Ga.; WSLR-Akron, Oh.; KUTI-Yakima, Wa.; KNIX-Tempe-Az.; KEED-Eugene, Or.; KEBC-Oklahoma City, Ok.; WCXI-Detroit, Mi.; KSSS-Colorado Springs, Co.; KKAL-Arroyo Grande, Ga.; WMNI-Columbus, Oh.; WDAF-Kansas City, Mo.; WHBF-Rock Island, Il.; WJJC-Commerce, Ga.; KSON-San Diego, Ca.; WIRE-Indianapolis, In.; KWMT-Fort Dodge, Ia.; WAFL-Milford, De.; KRAK-Sacramento, Ca.; WXOX-Bay City, Mi.; KFRM-Salina, Ks.; WHN-New York, N.Y.; KEEN-San Jose, Ca.; WQIX-Horseheads, N.Y.; KFDI-Wichita, Ks.; WEEP-Pittsburgh, Pa.; WROZ-Evansville, In.; KVEG-Las Vegas, Nv.; KYNN-Omaha, Ne.; WNDU-South Bend, In.; KUUX-Hobbs, N.M.; KS100-Cleveland, Oh.; WPWC-Dumfries, Va.; KROB-Robstown, Tx.



AMERICA

1. I Don't Care	RICKY SKAGGS	Epic 14-02931
2. Honky Tonkin'	HANK WILLIAMS, JR.	Elektra E-47462
3. I'm Gonna Hire A Wino	DAVID FRIZZELL	Warner/Viva WBS-50063
4. Take Me Down	ALABAMA	RCA PB-13210
5. Born To Run	EMMYLOU HARRIS	Warner Brothers 7-29993
6. Nobody	SYLVIA	PB-13223
7. Are The Good Times Really Over	MERLE HAGGARD	Epic 4-02894
8. Ain't No Money	ROSANNE CASH	Columbia 18-02937
9. Some Memories Just Won't Die	MARTY ROBBINS	Columbia 18-02854
10. I'm Not That Lonely Yet	REBA McENTIRE	Mercury/Polygram 76157
11. Old Friends	RAY/WILLIE/ROGER	Columbia 18-02681
12. Fool Hearted Memory	GEORGE STRAIT	MCA-52066
13. Don't Worry 'Bout Me Baby	JANIE FRICKE	Columbia 18-02859
14. Women Do Know How To Carry On	WAYLON JENNINGS	RCA PB-13257
15. Heartbreak Express	DOLLY PARTON	RCA PB-13234
16. Oh Girl	CON HUNLEY	Warner Brothers WBS-50058
17. I Just Cut Myself	RONNIE McDOWELL	Epic 14-02884
18. Heavenly Bodies	EARL THOMAS CONLEY	RCA PB-13246
19. Love Will Turn You Around	KENNY ROGERS	Liberty P-B-1471
20. 'Til You're Gone	BARBARA MANDRELL	MCA 52038

STRONG ACTION SINGLES:

I'm Drinkin' Canada Dry - BURRITO BROTHERS / Hey! Baby - ANNE MURRAY / Nothing But The Radio On - YOUNGER BROTHERS / This Dream Is On Me - GENE WATSON

KEEPING TRAX

BY DON FORD

ALBUM RELEASES (U.S.A.)

EARL THOMAS CONLEY .. Somewhere Between Right And Wrong .. RCA AHL1-4348
 WILLIE NELSON .. The Best Of Willie Nelson .. RCA AHL1-4420
 TOMPALL & THE GLASER BROTHERS .. After All These Years .. Elektra 60148-1
 MICKEY GILLEY .. Put Your Dreams Away .. Epic FE38082
 JACK GRAYSON .. Jack Grayson Sings .. Joe-Wes JW8100
 KENNY ROGERS .. Love Will Turn You Around .. Liberty LO51124
 LACY J. DALTON .. 16th Avenue .. Columbia 37975
 BRENDA LEE .. Greatest Country Hits .. MCA MCA5302
 VARIOUS ARTISTS .. 60 Years Of Country Music .. RCA CPL2-4351
 DAVID FRIZZELL .. The Family's Fine But This One's All Mine .. Warner/Viva 23688-1
 JEANNIE PRUETT .. Star Studded Nights .. Audiograph 7771
 BILLY JOE SHAVER .. Billy Joe Shaver .. Columbia FC37959
 MARTY STUART .. Busy Bee Cafe .. Sugar Hill 3726
 JIMMY C. NEWMAN .. Cajun Country .. Delta DLP1144
 NICOLETTE LARSON .. All Dressed Up And No Place To Go .. Warner Bros. BSK3678
 CINDY HURT .. Talk To Me .. Churchill CR9422
 CON HUNLEY .. Oh Girl .. Warner Bros. 23693-1
 MERLE HAGGARD/GEORGE JONES .. A Taste Of Yesterday's Wine .. Epic FC38203
 THE STANLEY BROTHERS .. The Columbia Sessions 1949-52 Vol.2 .. Rounder SS10
 VAL, JOE & THE NEW ENGLAND BLUEGRASS BOYS .. Sparkling Brown Eyes .. Rounder 0152
 CONWAY TWITTY .. Conway's No. 1 Classics Vol. One ..
 THE BELLAMY BROTHERS .. Greatest Hits .. Warner Bros. 23697
 RAY CONNIF AND THE SINGERS .. The Nashville Connection .. Columbia 38072
 ATLANTA POPS ORCHESTRA .. Just Hooked On Country .. Epic FE38154
 CHARLIE ROSS .. The High Cost Of Loving .. Town House ST 7007
 GEORGE BURNS .. Young At Heart .. Polygram SRM-1-4061
 TOM JONES .. Tom Jones Country .. Polygram SRM-1-4062

ALBUM RELEASES (U.K.)

BOBBY BARE .. 20 Of The Best .. RCA International INTS5187
 WILLIE NELSON .. 20 Of The Best .. RCA International INTS5208
 DON GIBSON .. 20 Of The Best .. RCA International INTS5184
 JIM REEVES .. The Abbot Recordings Vol. 1 .. RCA International INTS
 JOHNNY CASH .. Johnny Cash Collection .. Pickwick DTO 10001 (Cassette)
 PATSY CLINE .. Patsy Cline .. Pickwick DTO 10006
 JERRY LEE LEWIS .. Jerry Lee Lewis .. Pickwick DTO 10005
 ELVIS PRESLEY .. Rockin' - The 60's .. RCA RCALP1001
 ELVIS PRESLEY .. Romantic Elvis .. RCA RCALP1000
 THE MAINES BROTHERS .. Hub City Moan .. Country Roads DBWLP1008
 MOE BANDY .. She's Not Really Cheatin' (She's Just Gettin' Even) .. CBS CBS85868
 CHARLY MCCLAIN .. Women Get Lonely .. Epic EPC85778
 EARL SCRUGGS & TOM T. HALL .. The Storyteller & The Banjo Man .. CBS CBS85616
 JUICE NEWTON .. Quiet Lies .. Capitol EST 12210
 MARTY ROBBINS .. Come Back To Me .. CBS CBS85794
 KENNY ROGERS .. Love Will Turn You Around .. Liberty LBG30350

SINGLE RELEASES (U.K.)

ANNE MURRAY .. Hey Baby/Song For The Mira .. Capitol CL262
 JERRI KELLY .. Walk Me 'Cross The River/All That Shines Is Gold .. Carrere CAR251



MOE BANDY .. She's Not Really Cheatin' .. CBS CBS85868



DON GIBSON .. 20 Of The Best .. RCA International INTS5184



JERRI KELLY .. Walk Me 'Cross The River .. Carrere CAR251

THIS IS YOUR RECORD RELEASE INFORMATION COLUMN FOR WHAT'S NEW ON THE MARKET PLACE

It's like I've never been away! Still locked in combat at the top of the Billboard Hot LP's chart are Willie Nelson and Alabama. Willie's 'Always On My Mind' - the title track single hit the British charts but faded away. I wonder why? - sits at the top having sold a million and Alabama's 'Mountain Music' is at 2.

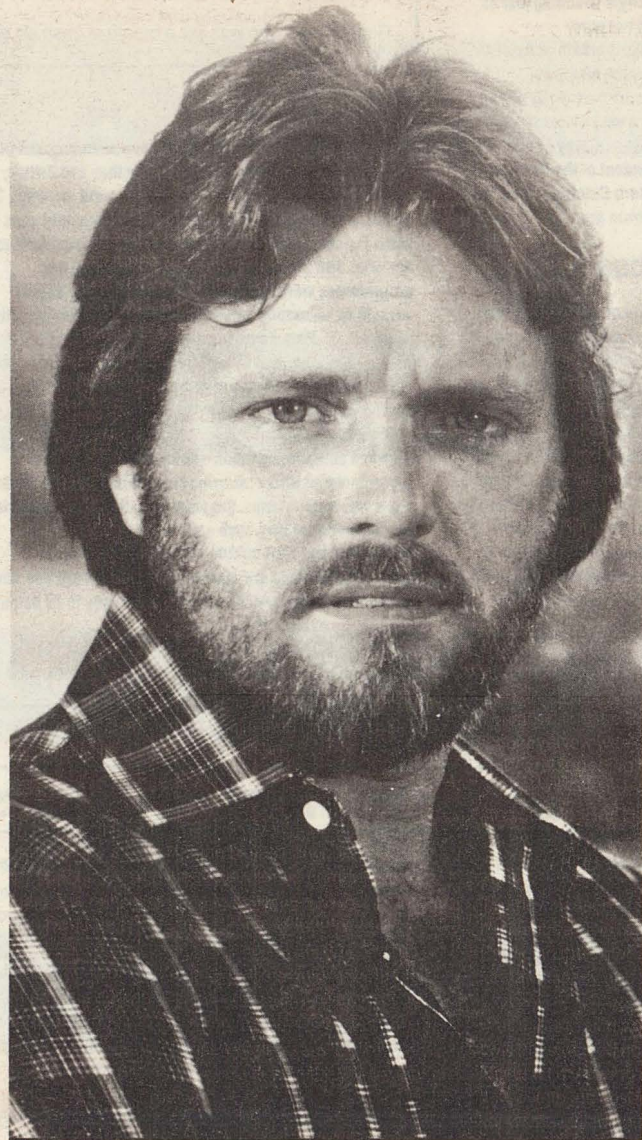
Which is all a great shame as far as Ricky Skaggs is concerned. Hailed as the great white hope (no pun intended Sharon) for a return to a purer yet still commercial, country sound, 'Waitin' For The Sun To Shine' album has been stuck in the 3 hole, except for a brief excursion to 2, since the beginning of July.

Among those standing in line to have a go at the top three are Merle Haggard with 'Big City' and Ronnie Milsap whose 'Inside' has hit the upper reaches of the chart after only nine weeks. Another fast mover is Kenny Rogers, he's at 7 after only five weeks on the chart with 'Love Will Turn You Around'.

The lovely Sylvia with 'Just Sylvia' and David Frizzell with 'The Family's Fine But This One's All Mine' - an obvious reference to his complicated family connections in country music - are also in there fighting.

It's well worth mentioning that Sylvia's extremely catchy 'Nobody' has displaced Frizzell's solid country lyric 'I'm Gonna Hire A Wino To Decorate Our Home' at the top of the singles chart at press time.

The only movers are those going the wrong way. Hank Williams Jr. is hitting the lower spots with his 'High Notes' and Rosanne Cash is falling from the heavens with her 'Somewhere In The Stars'.



OH GIRL .. Con Hunley, Warner Brothers 1 23693

Billboard® Hot Country LPs™

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This Week	Last Week	Weeks on Chart	TITLE Artist, Label & Number (Dist. Label)	This Week	Last Week	Weeks on Chart	TITLE Artist, Label & Number (Dist. Label)
1	1	22	ALWAYS ON MY MIND ▲ Willie Nelson Columbia FC 37951 CBS	40	36	18	AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' TO LOSE Bobby Bare, Columbia FC 37719 CBS
2	2	23	MOUNTAIN MUSIC Alabama, RCA AHL1 4229 RCA	41	44	4	STICKIN' TOGETHER The Kendalls, Mercury SRM-1-4046 (Polygram) POL
3	3	42	WAITIN' FOR THE SUN TO SHINE Ricky Skaggs, Epic FE 37193 CBS	42	43	38	STILL THE SAME OLE ME George Jones, Epic FE 37106 CBS
4	4	41	BIG CITY Merle Haggard, Epic FE 37593 CBS	43	46	99	I AM WHAT I AM ● George Jones, Epic JE 36586 CBS
5	7	9	INSIDE Ronnie Milsap, RCA AHL1-4311 RCA	44	42	20	LAST TRAIN TO HEAVEN Boxcar Willie, Main Street ST 73001 (Capitol) CAP
6	5	18	HIGH NOTES Hank Williams, Jr., Elektra/Curb E1-60100 (Elektra) WEA	45	39	10	SOFT TOUCH Tammy Wynette, Epic 37980 CBS
7	8	5	LOVE WILL TURN YOU AROUND Kenny Rogers, Liberty LO-51124 CAP	46	41	44	BET YOUR HEART ON ME Johnny Lee, Full Moon/Asylum SE 541 WEA
8	6	8	SOMEWHERE IN THE STARS Rosanne Cash, Columbia FC-37570 CBS	47	47	19	CHARLEY SINGS EVERYBODY'S CHOICE Pride, RCA AHL1 4287 RCA
9	12	10	JUST SYLVIA Sylvia, RCA AHL-1-4263 RCA	48	48	10	PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA Hoyt Axton, Jeremiah JH-5003 IND
10	13	5	FAMILY'S FINE BUT THIS ONE'S MINE David Frizzell, Warner/Viva 23688 WEA	49	51	15	AMAZING GRACE Cristy Lane, Liberty 51117 CAP
11	9	28	SOUTHERN COMFORT Conway Twitty, Elektra E1-60005 WEA	50	53	94	GREATEST HITS ▲ The Oak Ridge Boys, MCA 5150 MCA
12	10	13	IN BLACK & WHITE Barbara Mandrell, MCA 5295 MCA	51	49	42	DESPERATE DREAMS Eddy Raven, Elektra SE 545 WEA
13	11	24	BLACK ON BLACK Waylon Jennings, RCA AHL1 4247 RCA	52	54	74	SEVEN YEAR ACHE Rosanne Cash, Columbia JC 36965 CBS
14	15	12	QUIET LIES Juice Newton, Capitol ST-12210 CAP	53	63	2	THIS DREAM'S ON ME Gene Watson, MCA-5302 MCA
15	14	17	LISTEN TO THE RADIO Don Williams, MC 5306 MCA	54	56	63	FANCY FREE ▲ The Oak Ridge Boys, MCA 5209 MCA
16	17	16	INSIDE OUT Lee Greenwood, MCA 5305 MCA	55	50	29	FINALLY T.G. Sheppard, Warner/Curb BSK 3600 WEA
17	19	75	FEELS SO RIGHT ▲ Alabama, RCA AHL1 3930 RCA	56	52	6	THE ROY CLARK SHOW LIVE FROM AUSTIN CITY LIMITS Roy Clark, Churchill CR-9421 MCA
18	16	18	HEART BREAK EXPRESS Dolly Parton, RCA AHL 1-4289 RCA	57	59	65	CARRYIN' ON THE FAMILY NAMES David Frizzell & Shelly West, Warner Bros BSK 3555 WEA
19	18	17	WHEN WE WERE BOYS The Bellamy Brothers, Elektra/Curb E1 60099 WEA	58	57	173	GREATEST HITS ▲ Waylon Jennings, RCA AHL1-3378 RCA
20	28	14	THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN THUMB Jerry Reed, RCA AHL1 4315 RCA	59	60	3	JACK GRAYSON SINGS Jack Grayson, Joe Wes JW 8100 MCA
21	21	48	GREATEST HITS ▲ Willie Nelson, Columbia KC2 37542 CBS	60	61	97	GREATEST HITS ▲ Ronnie Milsap, RCA AHL1 3772 RCA
22	23	6	STRAIT FROM THE HEART George Strait, MCA 5320 MCA	61	62	7	FAMILY AND FRIENDS Ricky Skaggs, Rounder 0151 IND
23	20	51	THE PRESSURE IS ON ● Hank Williams Jr., Elektra/Curb SE 535 WEA	62	64	74	JUICE ▲ Juice Newton, Capitol ST 12136 CAP
24	27	5	THE LEGEND GOES ON The Statler Brothers, Mercury SRM-1-4048 (Polygram) POL	63	58	145	THE BEST OF EDDIE RABBITT ● Elektra 6E 235 WEA
25	24	26	BOBBIE SUE Oak Ridge Boys, MCA 5294 MCA	64	67	81	OH GIRL Con Hunley, Warner Brothers 1-23693 WEA
26	22	10	SHE'S NOT CHEATIN' (SHE'S JUST GETTIN' EVEN) Moë Bandy, Columbia FC 38009 CBS	65	65	22	SEASONS OF THE HEART John Denver, PCA AHL1 4256 RCA
27	26	9	LOVE TO BURN Ronnie McDowell, Epic FE 38017 CBS	66	69	2	TALK TO ME Cindy Hurt, Churchill CR-9422 MCA
28	25	13	NUMBER ONES Conway Twitty, MCA 5318 MCA	67	71	53	YOU DON'T KNOW ME Mickey Gilley, Epic FE 37416 CBS
29	29	16	BUSTED John Conlee, MCA 5310 MCA	68	72	99	GREATEST HITS ▲ Anne Murray, Capitol SOD 12110 CAP
30	38	5	TOO GOOD TO HURRY Charly McClain, Epic FE 38064 CBS	69	73	224	STARDUST ▲ Willie Nelson, Columbia JC 35305 CBS
31	30	115	MY HOME'S IN ALABAMA ▲ Alabama, RCA AHL1-3644 RCA	70	74	59	SHARE YOUR LOVE ▲ Kenny Rogers, Liberty L00 1108 CAP
32	34	5	UNLIMITED Reba McEntire, Mercury SRM-1-4047 POL	71	75	58	YEARS AGO The Statler Brothers, Mercury SRM 16002 POL
33	37	96	GREATEST HITS ▲ Kenny Rogers, Liberty L00 1072 CAP	72	73	224	STARDUST ▲ Willie Nelson, Columbia JC 35305 CBS
34	31	52	STEP BY STEP ● Eddie Rabbitt, Elektra SE 532 WEA	73	74	59	SHARE YOUR LOVE ▲ Kenny Rogers, Liberty L00 1108 CAP
35	45	4	16TH AVENUE Lacy J. Dalton, Columbia FC 37975 CBS	74	70	12	SOME DAYS IT RAINS ALL NIGHT LONG Terri Gibbs, MCA 5315 MCA
36	35	7	STRAIT COUNTRY George Strait, MCA 5248 MCA	75	75	58	YEARS AGO The Statler Brothers, Mercury SRM 16002 POL
37	32	28	THE DAVID FRIZZELL AND SHELLEY WEST ALBUM Warner/Viva BSK 3643 WEA				
38	40	36	CIMARRON Emmylou Harris, Warner Bros. BSK 3603 WEA				
39	35	21	WINDOWS The Charlie Daniels Band, Epic FE 37694 CBS				

Superstars are awarded to those products demonstrating the greatest sales gains this week (Prime Movers). Stars are awarded to other products demonstrating significant gains. ● Recording Industry Assn. of America seal for sales of 500,000 units (seal indicated by dot). ▲ Recording industry Assn. of America seal for sales of 1,000,000 units (seal indicated by triangle).

KEEPING TRAX

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Pete Nelson

NELSON'S COLUMN



The Story Of The Kings New Clothes?

No doubt most of you are familiar with the classic children's story 'The King's New Clothes', if you're not, I'll quickly familiarise you with the plot. This King fella wanting a set of new clothes commissioned two guys to make them. Unknown to the King, they were con-men, so instead of actually making the clothes they pretended they were weaving the finest set of clothes ever seen, and only people of the highest intelligence could see the clothes, people of a low mentality could see nothing! Of course no-one wanted to appear stupid, so everyone said what beautiful clothes the men were weaving, and the King even paraded through the town in the 'new' clothes, and all his subjects were agog at the new 'threads' - that is, all except for one little boy, who didn't know that he was supposed to be amazed - he blew the plot by shouting, "Look at the King, he's got no clothes on" - and everyone's eyes were opened to the truth....by now you're wondering why I have dragged up this refugee from 'Jackanory', well if you're sitting comfortably I'll tell you.

It seems to me that there is a great comparison between this story, and the International country music scene. Not having been to Wembley '82, I sat down to enjoy the highlights on TV, and whilst BBC2 TV are generally to be commended for their presentation of the shows. However, to my ears I'm afraid it only served to show up the severe limitations which afflict many of the so called top International 'stars'.

What do I mean? Well, on this showing the biggest limitation by far was the obvious difficulty of some acts to master the basics of singing, which is to be able to pitch or even hold a note, and that included such favourites as Boxcar Willie, Jeannie C. Riley and Razy Bailey, and - oh dear - Porter Wagoner.

For me Wagoner's performance was one of the worst things that I have ever seen from a so-called Wembley Festival star. David Allan's commentary spoke of Wagoner's "25 years a country legend", and "he has finally conquered his fear of flying to come to England" - hell, if that's the best the man could do he need not have bothered! To me he came across like a geriatric hillbilly, which I suppose many will claim he is, and that terrible suit looked as though it had escaped from Tiffanys, and most important, his apparent inability to hold any form of recognisable note, together with what seemed like total lack of stage presence, made me embarrassed just watching.

Razy Bailey's Wembley stage appearance shortcomings, to me, were fairly obvious too and whilst he may sound good on record, his voice was just not up to the close scrutiny of this televised event.



Boxcar Willie fared a little better when he stuck to his own kind of songs, which still seem to revolve around just two basic tunes, both in the same key but for me, Boxcar not only ran off the rails, he completely wrecked the train, when he attempted 'He Stopped Loving Her Today', seemingly not having a good enough voice to project the notes with any kind of feeling, he reduced this great song to a shambles.

Kris Kristofferson - dear old Kris, I love his songs, I think he is responsible for some of the most beautiful lyrics ever to have come out of anyone's mind - but, I'm sure he doesn't need telling that he just plain can't sing 'em, woefully out of key, and again that failing to hit the correct notes reduced Kris' spot to a musical lynch party, after all it was as a singer that he was booked, - wasn't it? Only his natural charisma saved him....

Don Williams was his usual TV self - I swear he nodded off twice during his performance, while he let his audience sing along instead, and although he has carved out his own little niche, isn't it time he attempted something just a little different?, for those who are growing tired of his 'You're My Best Friend' front stage act.

Where do the Kings new clothes come in?

I would ask, just as in the famous story, are these people being applauded for the performance they have just given on stage, or ARE THEY BEING APPLAUDED FOR WHO THEY ARE?, or were.... Porter Wagoner is announced, and everyone is on their feet clapping and cheering (or was this dubbed in?), then the man delivers a terrible set, and no-one wishes to appear the ignorant one, so rather than admit that the singer was bad, they are back on their feet again, - standing ovation, - Porter mumbles something about being amazed at his reception, - no bloody wonder!! - Just for once I'd love that fresh little boy to stand up in the audience and say, BUT LOOK THE KING HAS NO CLOTHES ON!

So now you're saying after all that, did he like anything at all about Wembley? The answer is yes, and just to balance the books here are a couple of things that caught my eye, Marty Robbins' excellent and always entertaining stage presentation.....Roy Orbison amazingly sounding just as good as he did 20 years ago, albeit not pure country.....Rose-Marie, who was like a breath of fresh air, she took her audience on and if nothing else was entertaining.....The Superpickers, who musically were just that.....Terry McMillan, combining a very visual stage show with the same brilliant musicianship.....Carey Duncan, great voice.....and the one real standout of the Festival show on these 'highlights', the superb Colorado, they were brilliant, I would remind you come from grand ole Scotland.

Skeleton In The Cupboard ??

I was recently glancing through some of my old files, and came across some old 'Opry' magazines, which was infact the early forerunner of the current 'Country Music People' magazine. Inside one dated January 1969 was a letter to the then Editor which stated "In my letter published in the December issue, I condemned 'Country Meets Folk', as I believe it did not fully represent the whole field of country music; it rarely features new releases and generally only covers British Artists." The letter goes on to say "but surely the emphasis should be placed upon the original source of the music, America! Even if U.S. artists are unavailable, their records could be played." And the letter is signed by one Anthony Byworth of London!! - mmmm, seems the priorities were being set as long ago as 1969!



Rose-Marie, who was like a breath of fresh air, took her audience on, and was entertaining.....

More Criticism !

Amongst many other things, I have often been accused of, is supporting British Artist's just because they are British, (which surely isn't a reason for chastisement anyway), but, just recently something caught my eye which only goes to show the other side of me. The Pete Sayers Electric Music Show on BBC 2 was frankly a bit of a let down, the programmes were obviously arranged to show Sayers' versatility, unhappily they only served to show up the artist's weak points. Pete Sayers is an excellent countryfied instrumentalist, and in this area he has few equals, but the bulk of the show was taken up by his vocalising, which ain't that good.

So when compared with an earlier although similar programme on BBC 2, starring Roy Clark, the Pete Sayers show was a non-starter. Sayers has neither Clark's charisma nor the voice to carry such a show. Now before you start putting pen to paper asking what right I have to criticise Pete Sayers, I'll tell you, one very good reason, and it's the £46 a year I pay in TV license - it gives me every right!

One of the nicest set of folks you are likely to meet if you ever get into the North West Lancs., country scene is a group called The Nancy Rivers Band, they comprise of Bill Rivers acoustic rhythm guitar and vocals, Harry on bass guitar, and Dave on lead guitar, banjo and harmonica. Fronted by the lovely Nancy herself, they are a very popular outfit locally, and just recently they had their first recordings released in cassette form (for sale at their gigs). Called simply 'The Nancy Rivers Band' it includes many of their stage favourites like 'Beneath Still Waters', 'House Of The Rising Sun', 'The Gambler' and 'I Still Miss Someone'. It's not the best thing I've ever heard, but - neither is it the worst thing I have ever heard, and believe me I have heard a lot of recorded music. Of all the things that Nancy and the boys have going for them, one of the best is the fact that they never take themselves too seriously, and it shows in their happy go-lucky performances. So whilst this cassette is no earth shatterer, it is a smashing example of the groups infectious stage act, and as such should be enjoyed by their very numerous followers.

Continued From Page 2

CMA ANNOUNCES COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME FINALISTS

CINDY WALKER, The 'Queen of Country Songwriters', is a native of Waco, Texas. She began professional songwriting in Hollywood, and Bing Crosby was one of the first film stars to record a Walker composition. She subsequently wrote songs for eight Bob Wills' movies. Some of her most popular hits are, 'Cherokee Maiden', 'Dusty Skies', 'Blue Canadian Rockies', and 'My Rancho Grande' among others. In the 1950's and 1960's she wrote her biggest songs of all including 'You Don't Know Me', 'In The Misty Moonlight', 'Dream Baby', 'Distant Drums', and dozens of others. Her songs have been recorded by virtually every superstar in country music.

DON LAW was born in the British Isles, and like his predecessor, Art Satherley, rose to prominence as an

executive with Columbia Records. He began his career in 1942 as an audit clerk and became an important producer and executive within the Columbia organization. He produced many of Columbia's biggest stars, including Carl Smith, Ray Price, Lefty Frizzell, Marty Robbins, Johnny Cash, Stonewall Jackson, and Jimmy Dean among others.

JOHN LAIR has been a teacher, musician, performer, composer, producer and authority on American folk and country music. Lair helped pioneer country music on network radio with his leadership at Chicago's WLS Barn Dance, Cincinnati's Boone Country Jamboree, and the radio network show which originated in the mountains of Kentucky, the Renfro Valley Barn Dance. Lair was one of the very first to take country music to the

White House, and helped launch the careers of Red Foley, Homer and Jethro, Karl and Harty and others. His compositions include 'Freight Train Blues', and 'Take Me Back To Renfro Valley'.

WESLEY ROSE, son of Hall of Fame member Fred Rose, mushroomed premier country music publishing company Acuff-Rose into an international organization with affiliates in more than 20 countries. Rose joined his father's company in 1945; Fred's musical genius, coupled with his son's business acumen, resulted in a dynamic combination which expanded Acuff-Rose into a publishing empire.

Wesley's accomplishments at Acuff-Rose include the recruitment of legendary songwriters Marty Robbins, John D. Loudermilk, Boudleaux and Felice Bryant,



Don Gibson, Roy Orbison, and Mickey Newbury, among others; his acquisition of the Everly Brothers; and the establishment of a sister company, Hickory Records.

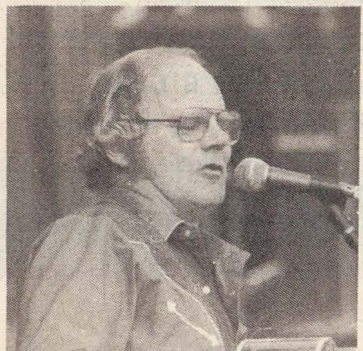


"As far as the eye could see...."

All About People



Have baby will travel. Shelly West and Allen Frizzell (right) with daughter Tess Marie.



Sole British representative on the bill, Eddie Blackstone.

A Huge, Gloriously Flambouyant, Party In An Oversized Backyard

JAMBOREE IN THE HILLS

Review and pictures by Don Ford

With the two day star studded gig at South Carolina's Myrtle Beach cancelled through legal hassles over the site, the Jamboree In The Hills claim to be the Super Bowl Of Country Music took on greater significance as I headed back up through the beautiful countryside of West Virginia. While this country music frolic in the hills is associated with the town of Wheeling W. VA., through its sponsors Jamboree USA and Radio Station WWVA, both subsidiaries of Columbia Pictures Industries Inc., the actual event takes place at Brush Run Park, St. Clairsville, Ohio, some 15 miles west of Wheeling on 170.

WWVA is a 50,000 watt boomer of a country station with a more than 50 year pedigree which broadcasts Jamboree USA live every Saturday night from the Capitol Music Hall in Wheeling to a listening audience strung throughout the North East United States and Canada, with over 5 million fans having travelled to see the show live at the theatre over the years.

Jamboree In The Hills became an offshoot of WWVA's Jamboree USA in 1977 after such country luminaries as Tom T. Hall and Johnny Cash had shown much enthusiasm for the idea.

Years of hard work went into the search for such things as a perfect sound system, facilities for the fans and the building of a permanent stage area building. The layout and design for Brush Run Park were completed under the guidance of Mel Lawrence, who played a major role in the creation of historic Woodstock. With an initial attendance of 26,000 the only reservations on the part of observers of the event were how they would deal with the sure problem of huge crowds in the future.

Deal with it they did. Jamboree In The Hills '82, the sixth of its kind, saw 50,000 fans invade the area. Just prior to the 10am start on the first day I, as a stranger to the event, topped the hill leading to the back stage area to be shocked speechless at the sight of a mass of humanity stretching away into the distance as far as one could see, the senses assailed by the atmosphere and array of colours paraded by this huge crowd which had started assembling at 5am. These so well behaved fans creating such a spectacle they contested with the artists for one's attention all weekend.

They brought their chairs, their sun awnings and their cool bins. They drank, cheered and had one hell of a good time. The 90 degree heat brought an amazing variety of dress and undress, anything from sawn off jeans to bikinis, topped by hats of all descriptions. There were some so far from the stage they couldn't even see it let alone the acts, but nonetheless having themselves a great time just listening to the music, a huge, gloriously flambouyant, party in an oversized backyard.

Security was tight, efficient and always polite. First class organisation made sure everything ran smoothly, not just on stage but all ancillary services, from bars to toilets, from medics to food. Surprisingly there were no facilities for reporting press to view the acts on stage but the back stage area provided an ever changing scene as the beautifully equipped buses disgorged musicians and their star name owners. Not only the big names whose stage acts are familiar to British fans, but artists such as that awfully good looking young man Ronnie McDowell, the man with a hot band, Mel McDaniel, the superb talents of singer/songwriter Billy Joe Shaver, an extremely fit looking Johnny Rodriguez and worthy of special mention, the sole British representative on the bill, singer/songwriter Eddie Blackstone.

For Helen Cornelius it was a question of the show must go on, her 20 year old son Joey had been killed in a rodeo accident just a week before.

Eddy Raven, looking remarkably cool for a man who arrived late on stage due to his bus succumbing to the heat, told me that his 'Desperate Dreams' album had turned his career right around and there is a new album on the way.

The scenes which greeted Loretta Lynn as she exited her bus to go on stage were reminiscent of those in 'Coal Miner's Daughter', the crush was tremendous and this was only media people! The organiser's of the Carroll County Fair were to be congratulated on their enterprise. A light plane overhead trailed an advertisement for Boxcar Willie's appearance at their upcoming show.

Have baby will travel was the theme for the lovely Shelly West and her husband Allen Frizzell, they unloaded comparative newcomer Tess Marie from their bus into a push chair.

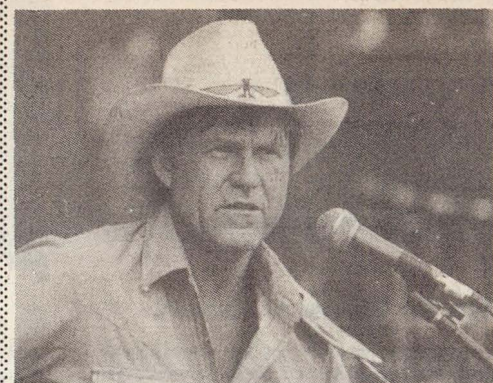
Jimmy C. Newman was surprised and delighted to find CMRU represented so far from home.

The Oak Ridge Boys, who closed the Jamboree on their debut performance here, soberly described their purchase of radio station WPFR in Terre Haute, Indiana, as a commercial business investment and then had their press conference in stitches as Richard Sturban described how he met the neighbours at his recently purchased new home. "About 2am one morning my car decided to run backwards down the drive and collided with the car belonging to the folks next door."

Jamboree In The Hills the Super Bowl of Country Music? That's not a claim, it's a fact.



An extremely fit looking Johnny Rodriguez.



The superb talents of singer/songwriter Billy Joe Shaver.



Helen Cornelius.... "The show must go on..."



Richard Sturban of the Oaks.... "My car ran backwards down the drive..."



American Break For Tammy

Tammy Cline - Britain's brightest hope on the country music scene - has had "the royal summons" from the top talent chiefs in the USA.

America's major cabaret buyers, who are searching for the stars of 1983 to perform at the prestige U.S. venues, want to hear Tammy perform in October.

Said Tammy: "This could be my big break - it's rare for a British singer to be invited to perform for these buyers. I'm hoping I'll land a major American deal from this."

She heard the news before embarking on a 15 day tour of the USA when she appeared with country giants Glen Campbell and Boxcar Willie.

DOTS & DASHES

Worthing Festival Film

Some of the 1982 All British Country Music Festival at Worthing this month will be filmed for world wide distribution.

Paul Bernard and his Thurza Productions Company will take their cameras into the plush Worthing Pavilion on Saturday September 18th to film some of the top British acts on show.

It was Paul who filmed the Brighton Country Music Special a couple of years ago, Paul Bernard probably now qualifies as one of the UK's leading independent film and television producer's as far as country music is concerned. This first all British country music special from Brighton was screened by six British television regions, the Irish Republic and in Finland, Iceland, Dubai and Saudi Arabia.

The Worthing Festival features over 20 of Britain's top acts and is hosted by presenter Neil Coppelale over the weekend of 17th, 18th and 19th September 1982.

TV — Gone

Didja catch the television play about CB and truck drivers called 'Dog Food Dan and The Carmarthen Cowboy' in August? If you did, did you pick out Mel Hague's gravel tones as part of the featured sound track and back ground music which featured 'The Winner' and his own composition 'I'm Gonna Be A Truck'.

TV — Coming

Northern viewers can catch a special ½ hour programme called 'Calendar Country' on Yorkshire television on Thursday September 2nd at 10.30pm., which features songs and interviews with Mel Hague, Tammy Cline, John Aston, Benny Lee, The Boothill Boys.

Jim Ed Brown latest

Country crooner, Jim Ed Brown, has teamed up with producer Jerry Crutchfield for Jim Ed's return to the recording studio. Although sessions have been closed, insiders indicate that the combination of these two artists has yielded a much more 'west-coast' contemporary sound than past Brown hits.

Crutchfield, who Brown feels is 'one of the brightest young producers in the business', scored big last year in the States with the Lee Greenwood debut, 'It Turns Me Inside Out'. He has produced Tanya Tucker and is currently working on the new Larry Gatlin album.



Dots & Dashes
compiled this month
by Sharon Sproats

"Crutch has a quiet, laid-back manner and a very keen ear", says Jim Ed. 'He reminds me a lot of Chet Atkins who produced all of the Browns songs and some of my very first hits.'

"Jim Ed's hit songs range from 'The Three Bells', and 'Pop A Top' to 'Lying In Love With You' and 'I Don't Want To Have To Marry You'. 'He has one of the truly great voices in country music.' says Crutchfield. "and Jim Ed is a real pro. in this business. We're having a good time working together and the best part is that we're cutting some refreshing and very exciting material." Record label negotiations are currently underway.

Don King



Epic recording artist Don King -- seen over here a couple of years back at the Portsmouth Festival has just signed an exclusive booking agreement with Top Billing International.

West Coast

West Coast, the band highly complimented by CMRU's Keith Newton when they gained the runner up spot in the 1981 British Country Music Talent Competition Final at Wembley Conference Centre, had a taste of the winners spotlight and a prize of £1,000 when they won Lancashire's 'Evening Gazette Star Trail' recently. In a competition which boasted six heats and a final sponsored by Thwaites Brewery, West Coast competed against across the board artists and musicians, pushing a cabaret line up into second place.



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**COUNTRY
MUSIC Round Up**

THE NEW COUNTRY DEMOCRACY by Chet Flippo

If there were a universal language, contemporary country and western music would be it. Almost anyone, anywhere understands and appreciates the deceptively simple messages and rhythms of modern country. All of human emotion is there, appealingly presented to audiences who don't even realize that they're country fans until they're hooked.

HEROES, ANGELS OUTLAWS

They're not buying country and western, they're not buying any brand of music, they're instead buying what is their music. What that represents is a shared experience, a progressive outlook on life, a wide-open and free-spirited style that nonetheless has a rock-ribbed steady backbone of a tradition.

Chet Flippo is acknowledged as one of America's leading rock journalists. An ex-editor of Rolling Stone, it was Flippo who signalled a new direction of country music in his sleeve notes for the revolutionary Outlaws album in 1977. He wrote: "It's not country and it's not country rock, but there's no real need to worry about labelling it." Flippo's connections with country music are further strengthened through his wife, Martha Hume, who is one of New York's leading country music journalists and who publishes her book, "Heroes, Outlaws and Angels," in October.

Modern country is the one common thread running through generations of Americans. It has a thematic unity and sincerity you won't find in other fields of music. It has a tradition of innovation - witness acknowledged country and western pioneers such as Jimmie Rodgers, Bob Wills, and Hank Williams, who were actually revolutionary for their times. Their musical so-called heresies were forgiven because their audiences

recognized that their musical progressions came from the country heart. If they broke any rules, it was done so with a spirit of adventure and the audiences accepted it as such. And country and western audiences continue to be as receptive to forward thinking musical concepts.

It was country and western, not rock or jazz or rhythm and blues,

or M.O.R. or A.O.R. or disco or B.O.S. or any of the other hybrids that first addressed social issues, that first acknowledged sleeping around, and drinking, and infidelity, and The Pill, and sliding off of satin sheets, and going to war and staying home from war. Country and western knows no age or class lines and knows no international boundaries. Human verities are copyrighted by no nation.

What is particularly encouraging about modern country and western is that it is part of mainstream country and part of an unbroken history. Its modern incarnation stems from an unchallengeable past. Rosanne Cash is as contemporary and as relevant and as musical as any rock superstar, but more so. Her father

is country and western pivotal figure Johnny Cash and the Cash family tree goes back to the epochal Carter family, who brought the Anglo-Saxon ballads over to the New World. Rosanne Cash, music fundamentalist, married a rock and roll purist from Texas named Rodney Crowell and their musical offsprings took modern country and western into the future.

That future is fluid and flexible and draws entire new audiences who may not have heard of the history but certainly endorse the present and eagerly await the future of modern country.

At the risk of sounding obsolescent, modern country and western is the most democratic of democratic meeting places or common

grounds. Country and western has always been as immediate as tomorrow's newspaper and still as intimate as a Saturday night concubinage. Social attitudes are reflected in country and western songs before the gossip columns get a hold of them. Johnny Paycheck scores with "Take This Job and Shove It" and becomes a folk hero. A country and western perennial like Willie Nelson becomes a national monument with a chestnut like "Stardust" and a country and western evergreen like "Blue Eyes Cryin' in the Rain". Other fields of music begin to jealously eye country and western and start copying. Country and western middle-of-the-road, as practised by Kenny Rogers sold in the millions, but it was not so different from the old-time country

and western. Roger's "The Gambler" was a short morality play, just as most serious country and western songs through the years have been. It's just that the audience has been brought up to date.

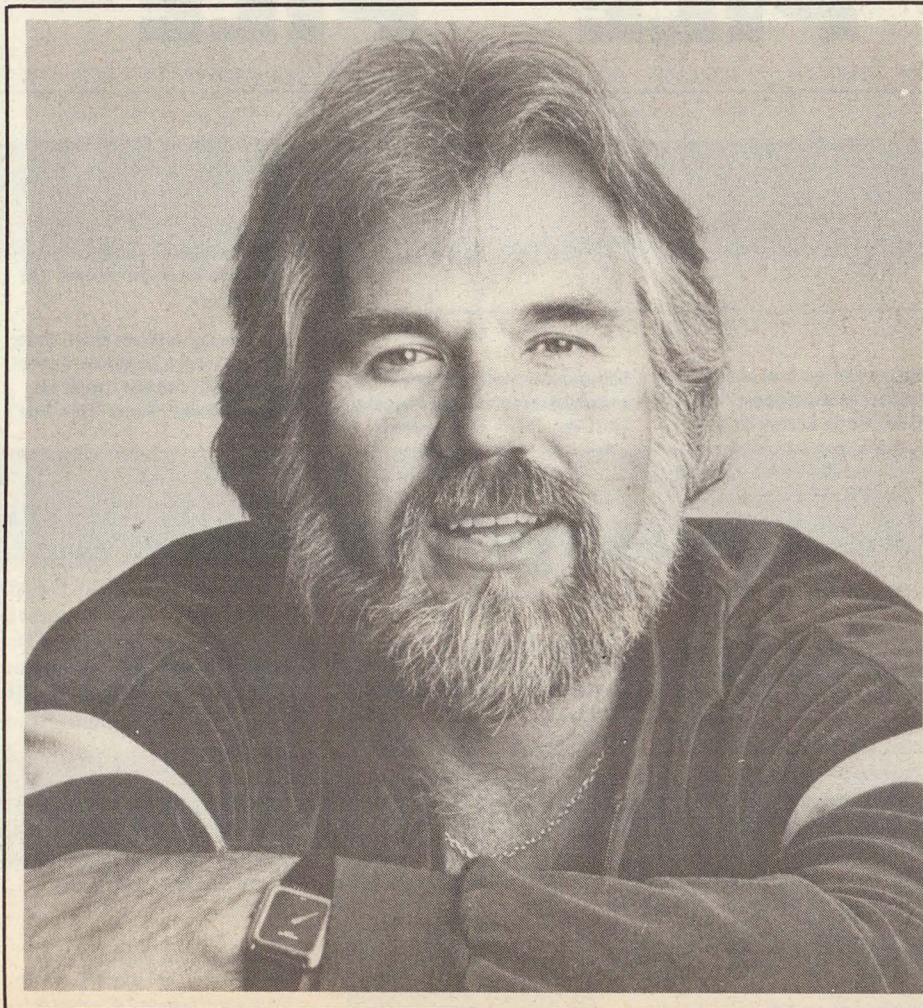
That has been the biggest change in country and western in the past decade. As rock faded from melody to cacophony, as jazz stubbornly cultivated its cult audience, as pop music drifted, country and western began to aggressively assert itself. Country and western's rich heritage of realism found new, young audiences who were eager for the real side of life.

Down in Texas, traditionally the cross-breeding grounds where eastern mountain music met and courted western swing, a whole new genre of performer and audience emerged. Critics called the former "outlaw" and the latter "redneck rock" but the labels were meaningless. Willie Nelson was the first to move from Nashville to Austin but his example was less "outlaw" than "missionary". The music was not traditional and was indeed a blend of western swing and eastern dirge and the western feel for good-time music won out. Everyone from New York folk singer, Jerry Jeff Walker; to Florida gimmick singer, Jimmy Buffet; to biker-outlaw, David Allen Coe; to California swing group, Asleep at the Wheel, suddenly felt right at home in Austin, Texas and Tennessee country became re-acquainted and 'Texas' swing rhythms merged with traditional country's waltz steps. The rest of the country soon caught up and everyone was stepping to new tunes that were timeless.

Modern country effortlessly conquered the South and its contiguous states. And rightly so. No other brand of popular music could encompass such a wide spectrum.

Country and western became a virtual rallying cry, a social centre point. Polite society finally admitted country and western, along with Perrier and white wine spritzers.

There was a new spirit of independence afoot in the land and it was increasingly being expressed by country and western songs.



REMINDER

DID SOMEONE ELSE GET YOURS LAST MONTH?

With our rapidly increasing following this could easily happen. Where as we are glad to have new readers, we don't want a sudden outcry from regulars that they can't get it.

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Dear Mr Newsagent, please order me my regular monthly copy of Country Music Round Up. (Britain's first Country Music Newspaper) starting with the edition. My name and address are as follows:

Mr/Mrs/Miss

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PICTURE NEWS

Gordie West at the Calgary Stampede



This year Gordie West, Britain's favourite 'Calgary Cowboy' rode in the Opening Procession of the Calgary Stampede, he travelled on a float for the Calgary Tourist and Convention Association.

During the ten days of the Stampede, Gordie appeared on stage at the Stampede Grounds twice daily - two hours at an open air stage opposite the

entrance to the Grandstand at the Arena and then one hour in the Pavilion. Gordie also entertained nightly at the Rafter Six Ranch at Seebe some 60 miles away.

Gordie is pictured here with Miss Rodeo Canada and Miss Rodeo Alberta on the final day of the Stampede when they appeared on Gordie's Show. The Theme of the 1982 Stampede - 'A Salute to the Cowboy'.

New Matchbox



Matchbox, release their new single MAG. 231 - 'Riding The Night' / 'Mad, Bad and Dangerous' - co-written and produced by Brian Hodgson (bass player with the group).

CHARITY NIGHT AT THE STARDUST



£417 found its way to boost the South Atlantic Fund following a Country Charity show at the Stardust club, Usk, Gwent. Pictured with the cheque from L to R are: Kelvin Henderson, Margaret Richardson (Double 'C' CMC), Lee Williams, Chris Beckert, Mr Hayward (Stardust owner) and Owen Cunliffe (Double 'C' CMC).

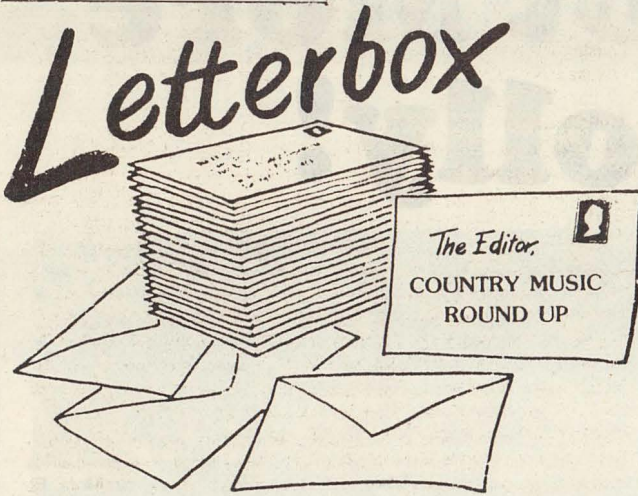
See A Lot More Of Dolly!



You're going to see more of Dolly Parton than you've ever seen before when she hits Britain's screens in the movie 'The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas' later this year. Tentative date for the London opening of the film, in which Dolly stars with Burt Reynolds, is set for November 11 and she plans to be there. Following this she is set for three concert appearances at London's Apollo Theatre on November 12/13/14. MCA Records will be releasing the sound track of the movie which features four original songs by the singer/songwriter turned actress, Dolly Parton.

Britain's 1st Country Music Newspaper

COUNTRY MUSIC Round Up



AN OPEN LETTER TO 'CMRU'S WEST MIDLAND CORRESPONDENT' JIM DUNCAN.

Dear Jim,

Many thanks for your unsolicited comments about my programme 'Town and Country' in the July issue of 'Country Music Round Up' - especially generous as you are involved with the country music programme broadcast by one of Radio WM's commercial rivals! However, I would like to make one or two points.

It seems to me that there are four things you can do with country music on radio:

- (a) ignore it.
- (b) provide a regular 'specialist' programme.
- (c) provide a regular programme with a strong country music content.
- (d) programme country music throughout the day.

When BBC Radio Birmingham opened, there was no country music programme (a) Due to popular demand, a weekly 'specialist' programme called 'Sounds Country' took to the air in 1973 (b). I presented and produced it for the whole of its seven year run and it seemed to be very much appreciated by local country music fans, including your good self.

When a new management team took over in 1980, the schedules were completely changed and the station (later to be re-named Radio WM) lost all of its 'specialist' music programmes. However, country music was to be featured as part of a new easy-listening music policy (d) and I was asked to present and produce a new Saturday morning programme which would combine the 'non-specialist' aspects of 'Sounds Country' with coverage of weekend events in the West Midlands (c).

At no time has 'Town and Country' claimed to be a country music programme - even the title is ambiguous. The 'diversions' you refer to, Jim, are an integral part of a two-hour programme of music, entertainment and information, designed to appeal to a much wider audience than would be likely to tune in on a Saturday morning for a country music and country chat show.

Much of the credit for the programme's success is due to my 'raving reporter' Malcolm Stent whose popularity among Radio WM listeners has earned him his own daily programme. He is in great demand for public appearances, so I dare say that there are people tuning in to 'Town and Country' just to hear his contributions to the programme.

In fact, letters and phone calls from country music fans objecting to the 'interruptions' to the flow of music have been well outnumbered by reaction from listeners commenting that they would never

have chosen to listen to a programme of country music, but now that they have heard what it's like, they have been hooked.

Surely, if country music is to establish itself in Britain, we broadcasters have got to stop preaching to the converted and capture the interest of this huge section of the public which hungers for light, popular music, intelligently presented. Once this has been done, perhaps promoters will feel more inclined to bring major country music shows to areas like the West Midlands and record companies will at long last feel it worthwhile sending country albums to the shops and, to complete the vicious circle, to the poor deprived radio presenters!

Yours faithfully
Ken Dudney
23 West Drive, Pershore Road
Edgbaston Birmingham

Dear Editors

I have never written my opinions before....but, I am tired of reading letters to all the country publications by club organisers cum managers, artistes and followers, as well as the media, why some clubs and venues fall flat on their country faces. I would suggest that all those who only see doom and gloom on their horizons, pay a visit to John Ryan's club in Harrow.

I've never found the entertainment anything else but entertaining. It is a family club, with a friendly family atmosphere and so too the people who work hard to keep it that way. No guns, but lots of the other western clobber. The club is packed every week and John Ryan and his assistants are forever turning the punters away. The venue isn't filled with smoke and noise. The music at a proper level, permits conversation. The bar has everything from American whiskey to Scotch whiskey. He (John Ryan) promotes trips on the Thames, organises visits to the local festivals, and bus outings when a star or special guest is at another venue in the area. I have been to Brighton, sailed on the Thames, (without crowds pushing and shoving) travelled to local clubs and always found them to be well arranged and extremely cheap.

'Name' people in the industry, when they want to go to a club to have their own good time, drop in on John's club for just that.

Just recently The Harrow C.M.C ran a special night, with all proceeds from a £1.25 admission charge going to charity. The entertainment featured not only bands, but a couple of 'just dropped in' country music greats. One an International star that entertains in Nashville, another an International broadcaster. There were representatives from several other clubs who came to enjoy the Harrow club's efforts. Also there

has been a lot of firsts connected with the Harrow club....a couple of boobs now and again, but John Ryan's Harrow C.M.C., is what country outside of the U.S.A. and Nashville should be. There is nowhere in this atmosphere the moans and groans heard all over the country scene, no blame on the economy, or no excuses why this club cannot produce. No band has ever left this venue wondering if they would get paid. No band has ever left swearing they would never return. So all you moaners and groaners and those who think they have the answers just come to any Thursday session, and bring a pencil to take notes. I'm not a long standing fan of country music, as a novice I've travelled all over the local area from central London to St. Albans, but I keep coming back to my own local club not to support them, but because I've enjoyed every minute at the Harrow country music club.

I don't want to sound like Mr Ryan's publicity agent, and I won't tell him I've sent this letter nor will I introduce myself as the one who has....but you know what they say 'credit were etcetra'....I've enjoyed myself in country music solely because of the Harrow C.M.C. By the way I think it was almost £400 that the club and its members raised for the blind last week the 1st of August. I suppose what I'm really trying to say is for those who haven't a clue, and are forever steeped in self pity should come and see why I and hundreds of others come week after week and keep a successful country music club successful.

Yours faithfully
Franklin Sims
9 Rutland Road
Harrow Middlesex

Dear Sir

I would like to relate to your readers, my experiences with a mail order company trading under the name of Country Records (Imports) of Stanley Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

In October 1980 I forwarded an order for some records, together with my cheque for £25.31 to Country Records and received a reply that they were currently unobtainable and would have to be ordered from the USA.

After months of waiting for the records to arrive, I contacted the firm and asked for either the records or a refund, eventually I received a letter dated 21st April 1981 from a Mr D.A. Wall stating that he was still trying to obtain my records and that he would try for a further 6 to 8 weeks, if he had no success he would forward a refund.

After more contacts I forwarded a list of alternative titles to the value of my original order, to date I have received no reply or records.

Upon telephoning Mr Wall, I am answered by a lady who is an expert at evasive replies, who doesn't know when Mr Wall is likely to be in.

Now I have a feeling I have been 'ripped off' and would like to put your readers in the picture as regards to placing orders with Country Records.

Of course, if Mr Wall would like to refund my £25.31 I would be very pleased to withdraw my comments.

Yours sincerely
Reg Lodge
Wildwood South CMC
33 Seacombe Green
Millbrook, Southampton.

**PLEASE KEEP
YOUR LETTER
TO THE ED'S
BRIEF.**

THE WAY TO GAIN CHART SUCCESS?

Dear Reader

In our opinion the only way to rectify what we believe to be the sorry state of British country music is for country records and in particular British country records to enter the national album and singles charts.

This would take the country trade out of its embarrassing backwater of British popular music.

The music industry regards the charts as the only barometer of demand for styles of music and artists.

It is the difference between supporting a politician and actually voting for him. No votes leads to defeat.

Charts success for even one British country artist would bring enormous publicity from the press, television, radio and pop newspapers.

Every single group, singer, club, paper, promoter, in the British country music scene would reap enormous benefits.

Local shops would more happily stock country records and the expense of importing specialist albums and searching from shop to shop for non-stocked records would greatly diminish.

The music industry, in general, appears to have the wrong image of country music and 'look down' on it. A well known radio DJ recently described 'on the air' a country singer as "A chappie with tassels from Rotherham singing about the prairie".

TO US THE SOLUTION IS SO TOTALLY SIMPLE AND SO CHEAP.

For about a mere £6.00 per person and a little effort, most of the trade's problems could be solved almost overnight.

We ask that every single person reading this letter, whether it be a DJ., editor, promoter, musician, club organiser, fan, etc., takes a little walk to the local record shop and orders one copy each of 'My Dixie Darling' (PF 3003) and 'Chasing The Wind' (PF 3004).

As long as every single person in the trade makes this little investment (time and money-wise) in their beloved country music, the whole music trade would be given the shock of its life, "Brains would be re-arranged" and the benefits would flow not only to Ginny, but to other artists, your club, and country music's status in the music world etc.

We repeat the solution is so simple, so cheap.

Make your own personal effort and don't leave it to everybody else as appears to have happened in the past.

The trade has to vote 'en masse' for these two records.

"United we stand, divided we fall".

It's up to you personally. Do not be put off by false excuses from record shops. Our records are readily available and there are thousands of copies lying in stock at Pinnacle's Orpington depot awaiting customers. It should take any shop a maximum of one week to obtain these records. Should your local shop take any longer, please demand to know the reason why and contact us with the name and address of the shop.

Please help us to solve the problems.

Yours sincerely

R. Norton

Pastafont Music Ltd.,

24 Upper High Street Epsom, Surrey

EDITORS COMMENT

Dear Mr Norton

Whilst we are to some extent in sympathy with much of what you have written re the position of British country artists related to

the 'pop' charts etc. We have to state the obvious....O.K. but why Ginny's records, great tho' these might be.

I'm sure that most of us do consider that recognition of Ginny's excellent talents are very long overdue, however equally that can be said of many others, who currently have less of an organised publicity machine working for them than Ginny has!!

We would very much like to support your efforts for 'British Country Music', but we cannot help but think that a great many of our readers, which include the great bulk of British country artists, managements, agents etc., in addition to 'Joe Public' would be far more impressed if this potential chart and marketing success were not geared to individual financial gain, not that we discredit anyone for making it big. However, such an appeal might stand a much greater chance of across the board support if the audited profits from these two proposed records were to be pledged to a charity or some similar benefit. Then I'm sure no one would begrudge any subsequent success gained by Little Ginny and her management from this "Support British Country Music into the Charts Campaign".



Dear Eds

Shame on you!

For a major country music paper such as yourselves, to completely ignore one of the little gems to come out of Nashville this year, i.e. the debut album by the Scratch Band, is nothing short of disgraceful.

Why no review of the album?

Why no feature on the band themselves? To any self respecting Don Williams fan, Danny Flowers is as well known as the man himself and when he takes time out to put his own songs on record he should be given all the media promotion possible, for rarely do we get the chance to hear

what top Nashville session men can do in their own right.

So how about it Eds, a feature on Danny Flowers and his Scratch Band is long overdue, why not give them some space in your excellent paper in the very near future.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Irene Paterson
1137 Aikenhead Road Glasgow
P.S. I would be interested to hear from any of your readers who also enjoyed this album.

EDITORS COMMENT: No sooner said than done - see Reviews page this month, and your cheek gets you a bonus, a picture of the 'Scratch Band', taken this year at Wembley

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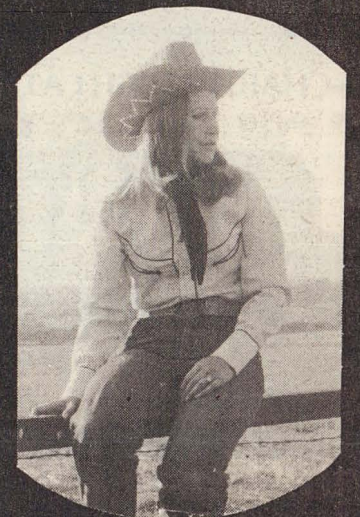
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COUNTRY QUESTIONS ?

Answered by Pete Smith & Friends

Andrew Hircok of Sheffield asks:- 1)Is the rumour correct that the Eagles are recording an album with the Chieftains? 2)When will the book written about the Eagles be available in Britain. 3)Is Brian Setzer really leaving the Stray Cats?

First of all, Andrew, the Eagles new album, now recorded, does contain a track featuring the traditional Irish band the Chieftains. Release in Britain is imminent. No plans have been made at present, to release the Eagles book in Britain. But watch your 'Book Clearing Houses', you can usually pick this type of thing up for thirty or forty pence. For instance, recently I saw books dealing with Patsy Cline, Dolly Parton and Linda Ronstadt for only thirty pence each. In Sheffield you have such shops at the bottom of Kings Street and on Pinstone Street. Brian Setzer appears to have got over the 'solo' bug and seems to have settled down, once more, with the Stray Cats. Thanks for the nice things you say about 'Rockabilly Scene', Andrew, really appreciated.

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Robert Frost of Felixstowe asks 1) What trucking albums are available on British labels? 2) Have Weak At The Knees recorded an album? 3) What is the address of Little Ginny's fan club?

There are not a lot of trucking albums available on British labels, though there are several imports at reasonable prices, obtainable from any good record store. Try the 'Wonder of Woolies'. On British labels we have two Barbary Coast albums, 'Long Vehicle' and 'Clean Up', both on Champ records. Then there's Kenny Seratt 'Ridin' The Big A' on the Big R label, 'Keep on Truckin'', a twenty tracker on the mid priced RCA International label and 'White Line Fever', another twenty track compilation on Liberty. Gusto Records who handle a lot of American labels, are readily available in Britain. 'Diesel Smoke, Dangerous Curves' (Starday), 'Man Behind The Wheels' (Starday), Red Sovine 'Classic Narrations' (Starday) 'Best Of The Truck Driving Songs' (Starday), Willis Brothers 'Best Of' (Starday). These are just a sample of what are available from Gusto. If your dealer pretends he's no knowledge tell him to ring Midland Records (telephone 01-993-2134) they handle distribution.

On Little Ginny's fan club you can write to her at Pastafont (Music) Ltd, 24 Upper High Street Epsom Surrey.

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Mrs Prior of Grays, Essex is a big Kristofferson fan and says there are not enough reviews, etc about him. Mrs 'P' would like a list of Kris's albums and the address of his fan club.

Tut tut Mrs. 'P'. I take it you do not read 'Country Rock Pile'.

Every bit of information relating to Kris Kristofferson sent to me, is faithfully reproduced in that column. As for reviews, since 'Country Music Round Up' began publication, every one of Kristofferson's British releases have been reviewed too. But as you are a Kristofferson fan, like myself, so I'll let you off, maybe you're one of our newer readers, so for you and others like you, here's my list....

'Me & Bobby McGee' (Monument MNT 64631) / 'The Silver Tongued Devil & I' (Monument MNT 64636) / 'Jesus Was A Capricorn' (Monument MNT 65391) / 'Border Lord' (Monument MNT 64963) 'Spooky Lady's Sideshow' (Monument MNT 69074) / 'Surreal Thing' (Monument MNT 81496) / 'Who's To Bless And Who's To Blame' (Monument MNT 69158) / 'Songs of Kristofferson' (Monument MNT 82002) / 'Easter Island' (Monument MNT 86056) / 'Shake Hands With The Devil' (Monument MNT 86099) / 'Help Me Make It Through The Night' (CBS 31839) / 'To The Bone' (Columbia JZ 36885-import).

Duet albums with Rita Coolidge:- 'Full Moon' (A&M AMLH 64403) / 'Natural Act' (A&M AMLH 64690) / 'Breakaway' (Monument MNT 80547)

Duet albums with Barbra Streisand:- 'A Star Is Born' (CBS 86021)

The Kris Kristofferson fan club can be contacted at:- 200 Crescent Drive Littlefield Texas 79339 U.S.A. Write to Jeri Smith (these damn Smiths get in all over the place).

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Alan Fearby of Gateshead tells us that he's got a copy of Nick Villard's 'The Day Of The Gun', a British recording produced by Tony Hatch in 1962. Alan would like to know something about this guy.... but heres the rub, Alan I confess I'm afraid I know absolutely nothing about Nick Villard. So let's appeal to our readers....How about it you out there? As for production by Tony Hatch, maybe he was at the 'Crossroads' of his career???

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Pat Reay of Kettering Northants is anxious to obtain a copy of 'The Taker', but can't find out who recorded it.

I'm afraid you've been misled Pat. It was neither Merle Haggard nor Hoyt Axton who had a hit on 'The Taker'. It was, in fact Waylon Jennings. The track can be found on 'The Taker/Tulsa' (RCA LSP 4487) and 'Country Music Festival Volume 2' (RCA INTS 1419) that's if you can find them.

☆☆☆☆☆☆

David Fraser of Nairn, Scotland is a cassette collector and Bobby Bare fan. David would like to obtain cassettes containing the best of Bare. He is also interested in the country side of Dean Martin.

I can assure you David that 'The Best Of Bobby Bare' (RCA LSA 3004) was released on cassette about ten years ago, so you'll just have to scrounge around your tapes shops and hope to be lucky. Incidentally, this recording contains the songs you ask about. 'Hes Was A Friend Of Mine', 'Detroit City' and 'Times Are Getting Hard'. You may also be interested in the RCA double tape 'Famous Country Music Makers', released in 1980. And if you're a very determined fan, write to Candelite Music Inc (CMI), 7 Norden lane, Huntington Station, New York 11746, and ask about their 'The True Living Legend Of Bobby Bare', a double album. To the best of my knowledge Dean Martin has not recorded any country albums. There was

'Little Ol' Winedrinker Me', of a few years ago, that contains a fair bit of country orientated material, and such material can be found in small quantities on most of Dean's albums.

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Christine Imrie of Wolverhampton would like to obtain an album by Joe Sun. Chris saw Joe at Wembley a couple of years ago but can't remember the songs he sang.

Well Chris, up to 1980 Joe has released 3 albums, 'Old Flames Can't Hold A Candle To You' (Ovation 1734), containing the title track 'Blue Ribbon Blues' / 'I Came On Business For The King' / 'Born Too Late' / 'Ozark Mountain Lullaby' / 'Midnight Train Of Memories' / 'High & Dry' / 'This Body That I Call My Home' / 'That Evil Child' / 'Long Black Veil'. The following year, 1979, there was 'Out Of Your Mind' (Ovation 1743), containing 'Out Among The Stars' / 'Shotgun Rider' / 'Out Of Your Mind' / 'I'll Find It Where I Can' / 'A Little Bit Of Push' / 'I'd Rather Go On Hurtin' / 'Mysteries Of Life' / 'Why You Been Gone So Long' / 'I'm Still Crazy About You' / 'One Timers'. In 1980 Joe released 'Livin' On Honky Tonk Time' (Ovation OV 1755) with 'Ready For The Times To Get Better' / 'My Sweet Love Ain't Around' / 'We're All A Bunch Of Outlaws In Our Mind' / 'Please Pull Away From Me' / 'Bottom Line' / 'I'd Better Go Home' / 'Lonesome Rainin' City' / 'Bombed, Boozed & Busted' / 'Alabama Rose' / 'Hobo On A Freight Train To Heaven' / 'Honky Tonkin' / 'Knocking On Heaven's Door', and his most recent release was his debut album on Warners/Elektra, 'I Ain't Honky Tonkin' No More' EI-60010 is still currently available.

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Miss A. Baker of Newark, Notts., would like to know what it takes to run a country music club or a fan club.

For a country music club preferably you need a venue with a private room, stage and changing rooms. The private room is necessary if you are to sell tickets (how else can you pay the acts?) Changing rooms are essential. It is unfair to expect your acts to change in the toilets. Then you'll need a good reliable agent, through whom you can book your acts. But most of all, you'll need money your prepared to lose, (believe me I know). It is no good starting off without capital. You can raise this in a variety of ways, by forming a committee of interested parties, each member advancing a fixed sum or by staging und raising events of various forms you might even find acts who are willing to play for expenses only until you are financially viable. Then you'll need to advertise well, both locally and further afield. It's no use just printing tickets and booking an act, you have to let people know you are there. Finally, you need time and dedication. If you are still interested, drop me a S.A.E. and I'll go into more detail.

The fan club. Well first of all you need the act's permission and co-operation. I'd also say that telephone, typewriter and photocopying facilities are a must. Capital, once again is necessary before you start to cover your initial expenses, advertising etc. Once again, much time and dedication are essential. If you're still interested, drop me a S.A.E. and I'll gladly forward fuller details.

Now, can you help us? We are still looking for information about one Robin Lee who recorded for Fidelio in the mid sixties.

Does anyone know how we can get in touch with the Canadian singer Orval Prophet?



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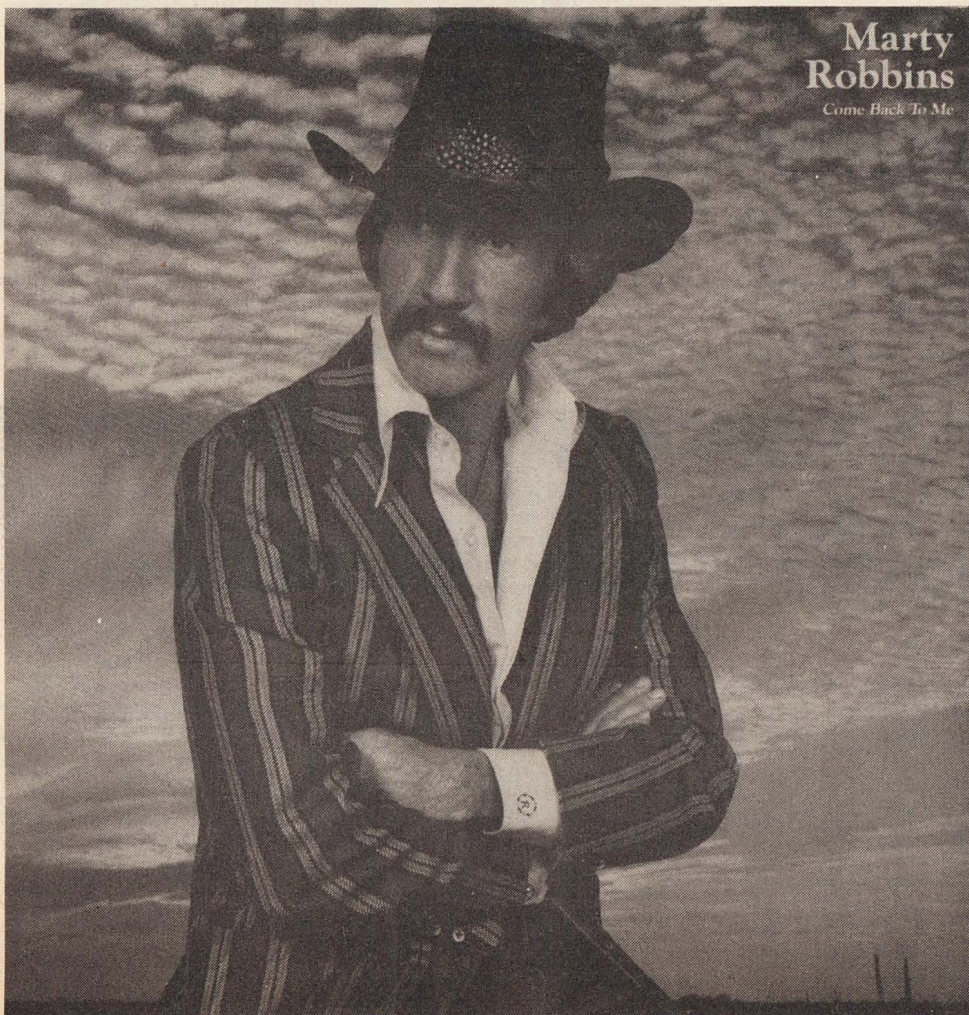
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COME BACK TO ME
CBS CBS85794

Some Memories Just Won't Die / It's Not All Over / The American Dream / Here Your Memory Comes Again / The First Song That Wasn't The Blues / Prayin' For Rain / That's All She Wrote / Tie Your Dreams To Mine / If Her Blue Eyes Don't Get You / Lover, Lover.

Robbins is one of the few country singers who's voice is technically correct, he has a tremendous range and feeling, and what he lacks in looks, he certainly makes up for in the voice department. On this particular album the voice is still there, but unfortunately it is not applied to the material it

deserves. This is Robbins in his middle-of-the-road mood, and whilst there are no bad songs here, when the man is in this groove Marty Robbins makes ordinary records.

There is nothing here to betray Robbins' country roots to the casual listener, missing is that distinctive mellow guitar work that hallmarked so many of his big hits, and the biting cowboy style harmonies are also missing. The musicians are as usual some of the finest in Nashville with Ron Oates, Reggie Young, Ken Bell, Bob Wray, but with Terry McMillan

surprisingly only used for percussion duties, they are mixed with something called the 'Nashville String Machine' which reduces the album to something in the 'easy listening' category. A couple of tracks do stand out, notably the Latin American Mexican shuffle beat of 'The American Dream' and the catchy 'The First Song That Wasn't The Blues' with it's insistent guitar riff.

If this was a Marty Robbins school report, I would be tempted to write 'disappointing can do much better than this'.

Pete Nelson

THE SCRATCH BAND
FEATURING DANNY FLOWERS
MCA MCF 3136

Side One
Only Love / To Be Your Man / Such A Lovely Night / I'm Glad She Does / You Are My Fire

Side Two
It's Alright / Carry Me Down To The River / Ridin' Sideways / Mr Rock & Roll / Mountain Song

Away from the laid back country rhythms they provide for Don Williams, the Scratch Band prove to be very blues orientated. Leader, Danny Flowers, has a voice much suited to this genre and knows his limitations. However, there is the odd rock number and reggae tune to flavour the proceedings. The band are, Danny Flowers (vocals, guitars), Biff Watson (keyboards, synthesizer, guitars, harmony vocals), Dave Pomeroy (bass, harmony vocals) and Pat McInerney (drums, percussion). Pat, incidentally, is an English guy who was once with Limey, that excellent country rock outfit of the mid-seventies. But I digress. The Scratch Band (what a marvellous name) have got it together musically, providing a tight, crisp sound behind Flowers vocals. Don Williams helps out with bass vocals and guitars.

The one serious criticism is the songs. Danny Flowers penned

eight, and another with Don Williams. The tenth, an instrumental, was written by Watson and Pomeroy. Now whilst I have a high regard for the songwriting skills of Flowers, I believe we might be getting just a little bit too much of him here and perhaps his own songs could have been spread over two albums, allowing other writers to be used to provide a little more light and shade. However don't let that comment deter you, check it out. The album is still worth a place in your collection and should prove a nice change to some of the sounds coming out of Nashville today.

Pete Smith

I JUST CAME HOME TO COUNT THE
MEMORIES
JOHN ANDERSON
WARNER BROS. (K 56799)

I Just Came Home To Count The Memories / Would You Catch A Falling Star / One Of Those Old Things / Girl, For You / When Lady Is Clouding Your Vision / Stop In The Road / I Danced With The San Antonio Rose / Don't Think Twice / Jessie Clay And The 12.05 / Trail Of Time.

His last L.P. 'John Anderson 2' has been constantly on my turntable and this one might take it's place.

Noel Casey

THE STATLER BROS.
THE LEGEND GOES ON
Mercury MERS 8

Whatever / I Had Too Much Too Dream / I Don't Know Why / Life's Railway To Heaven / How Do You Like Your Dream So Far / A Child Of The Fifties / That's When It Comes Home To You / I Don't Dance No More / What You Are To Me / I'll Love You All Over Again.

At last, The Statlers have got another release in Britain, and whilst the album will not sell by the truckload, I'm sure that the Groups many fans will welcome this opportunity to be able to buy an album at the regular price, rather than have to pay import prices.

Barbara Mandrell's sleeve notes - "The legend goes on, is quite an incredible statement, but when you are talking about the Statler Brothers, it becomes something of an understatement" - because whilst we in Britain might find that syrup a little hard to swallow. In the States, one has to remember that the group have notched up an incredible acclaim over the past dozen years or so, including 3 grammys, 8 C.M.A awards and 16 music city news awards, so maybe the title of this album can be justified?

The album itself is well up to the Statlers usual standard with Harold and Don Reid responsible for writing seven of the ten tunes, the other three are from Lew DeWitt, Kim Reid, and the traditional 'Life's Railway To Heaven'. The Statlers harmonies are rooted deep in gospel music, spot on, clear, and never forced, infact it's sounds so pure, that at times it can tend to get a little antiseptic (if you see what I mean?).

To quote Ms. Mandrell once again, "Their treatment of a song is totally unique and distinguishable. They emulate and follow no-one. Instead they are creators and trendsetters that make every recording something special for all of us to enjoy and treasure." I'll go along with part of those sentiments, there is only one Statler Bros. group, and their sound is completely their own, and this is well showcased by the ten songs on this extremely enjoyable album.

Pete Nelson

SYDNEY DEVINE
TAKE MY HAND PRECIOUS LORD
Emerald Gem
GES 1220

Old Rugged Cross / Peace In The Valley / Midnight Special / What A Friend We Have In Jesus / Only Believe / Take My Hand Precious Lord / Precious Memories / We Call On Him / Family Bible / It Is No Secret / Who Am I / Only If You Praise The Lord.

This is one of the worst records I have ever had the misfortune of reviewing, it's obvious from the titles that it's a gospel album, but Devine treats the whole thing with the subtleness and feeling of an elephant tap dancing on egg shells.

I can only see this album appealing to exiled Scots - as I have no doubt at all that it will immediately transport them back to Glasgow on a Saturday night at throwing out time, for this is just what Devine's singing on this album is akin to, so much so, that I can almost close my eyes and smell the beer and see the guy in the corner bashing the old upright piano, whilst Sydney stands arms outstretched, fag in one hand, pint in the other, belting out 'On A Heeeel Far Hawaaeeey'.

I have to admit that I have never been a fan of the Devine tonsils, and am unable to understand how he has sold so many albums in the past, but this offering comes over to me as a mistake from start to finish, the whole production sounding very heavy handed.

Gospel music need not necessarily be treated with hushed whispers and reverant tones, after all it can be very happy music, but these songs chosen for this album cry out for a much softer approach than Mr Devine has given, with the one possible exception of 'I'd Like To See Jesus On The Midnight Special'.

I don't know whether Devine's 'over the top' treatment of these songs is intentional, or that he just doesn't know any better, but I am disappointed that anyone should try and make a commercial killing in such a tasteless way.

Pete Nelson

LARRY CUNNINGHAM
JUST FOR YOU
K Tel KLP 95

Among The Wicklow Hills / Cottage On The Borderline / Fools Paradise / Old Ireland Is The Only Place For Me / Tribute To Jim Reeves / The Emigrant / I Dreamed About Mommy Last Night / Pride Of The West / Ninety Years Old / Pretty Little Girl From Omagh / Lovely Leitrim / Annadown / Don't Let Me Cross Over / Come Back To Erin / Slaney Valley / El Tigre / Snowflake / My Kathleen / They Wouldn't Do It Now / Where The Grass Grows The Greenest.

Almost twenty years on from the successes of the 60's - remember the mighty Avons? Larry Cunningham rolls on sounding better than he ever did. A fine LP this - it's really a twenty greatest hits job, but all the tracks have been re-recorded under the guiding hand of that man again, Crawford Bell. More than half the tracks have an Irish flavour, but then I suppose Larry and the Avons were the originators of that dreaded hybrid - Country'n'Irish - so his fans know what what to expect.

On the straight country tracks Larry sounds very confident and the backing is excellent, good use of girl chorus and nice fiddle too. My favourite tracks are Johnny Bonds 'Fools Paradise' and strangely 'Tribute To Jim Reeves' written by the late Eddie Masterson. I say strangely because I hated it when it came out in 1964 - it reached No.40 in the British charts but after all the years now it sounds somehow more sincere.

All the big ones are here - Lovely Leitrim, one of Ireland's biggest ever sellers, from 1965. Snowflake from 1966, El Tigre '68 and so on, right up to date, I missed '3 Steps To The Phone', 'This Time Of Year' and 'Goodbye Comes Hard To Be' which goes to show this could have been a double album.

All good stuff then - a must for Larry's fans - it's a credit to K Tel and Crawford Bell but most of all the mighty Cunningham.

Noel Casey

BOB WILL S
MORE RARE PRESTO TRANSCRIPTIONS
CATTLE RECORDS LP 28

In the Mood / Sugar Moon / Elmer's Time / My Life's Been A Pleasure / Texas Home Dipsy Doodle / Just A Little Lovin' / Sunrise Serenade / Cherokee Maiden / Osage Stomp / Your The Sweetest Rose In Texas / Don't Let Your Deal Go Down / Molly Darling Yearning / Those Gone and Left Me Blues / Little Star Of Heaven.

These are very historic recordings, dating from 1949, and were initially done for the Croseley Automobile Company. As in most early radio program recordings the quality is somewhat lacking and in all honesty I can only see this album appealing to the most dedicated of Wills' fans, or ardent students of early country music. For the record these recordings were made a year after Wills had sacked his lead singer Tommy Duncan, and the line up consists of Wills on vocals and fiddle, Jesse Ashlock on vocals and fiddle, Eldon Shamblin on vocals and electric guitar, Tiny Moore on mandolin, Alex Brashear on trumpet, Mancel Tierney on piano, Billy Jack Wills on drums, Luke Wills on bass fiddle, Bill Choates on rhythm guitar, and Carl Luper on vocals. Plus there's an unnamed steel player in there somewhere.

The sleeve notes are correct when saying that probably the weakest part of these recordings are the vocals, as Duncan was hard to replace, but it's strengths are in the various trumpet, electric guitar (which is particularly swinging) and piano solos.

If I'm being perfectly honest, I find it very difficult to relate Wills and his band to music of any era. To my mind he was much more into the jazz style of the big bands and if he had been performing in Britain at the time, he would perhaps have been rubbing shoulders with the likes of Ambrose & his Orchestra, and even Joe Loss!

I shall probably be taken to task for saying that I can't relate Bob Wills to country music, but to me this sounds like a big dance band with a fiddle and occasional steel guitar stuck in the middle. I pass.

Pete Nelson.

GREATEST HITS
THE INDIANS
K-TEL KLP 90

Sailing Home / Squaws Along The Yukon / We're Just Indians / Bar Lovin' Woman / Indian Burial Ground / Too Many Chiefs / Wild Blood / Polka Selection / Roses Are Red / Indian Reservation / Travelling Indian Band / Indian Wedding / Running Bear / Peace Pipe / That's Alright (Mama) / One Day At A Time / Tobacco / The Old Nickleoden Sound / Phinestone Cowboy / Shy Little Indian Girl.

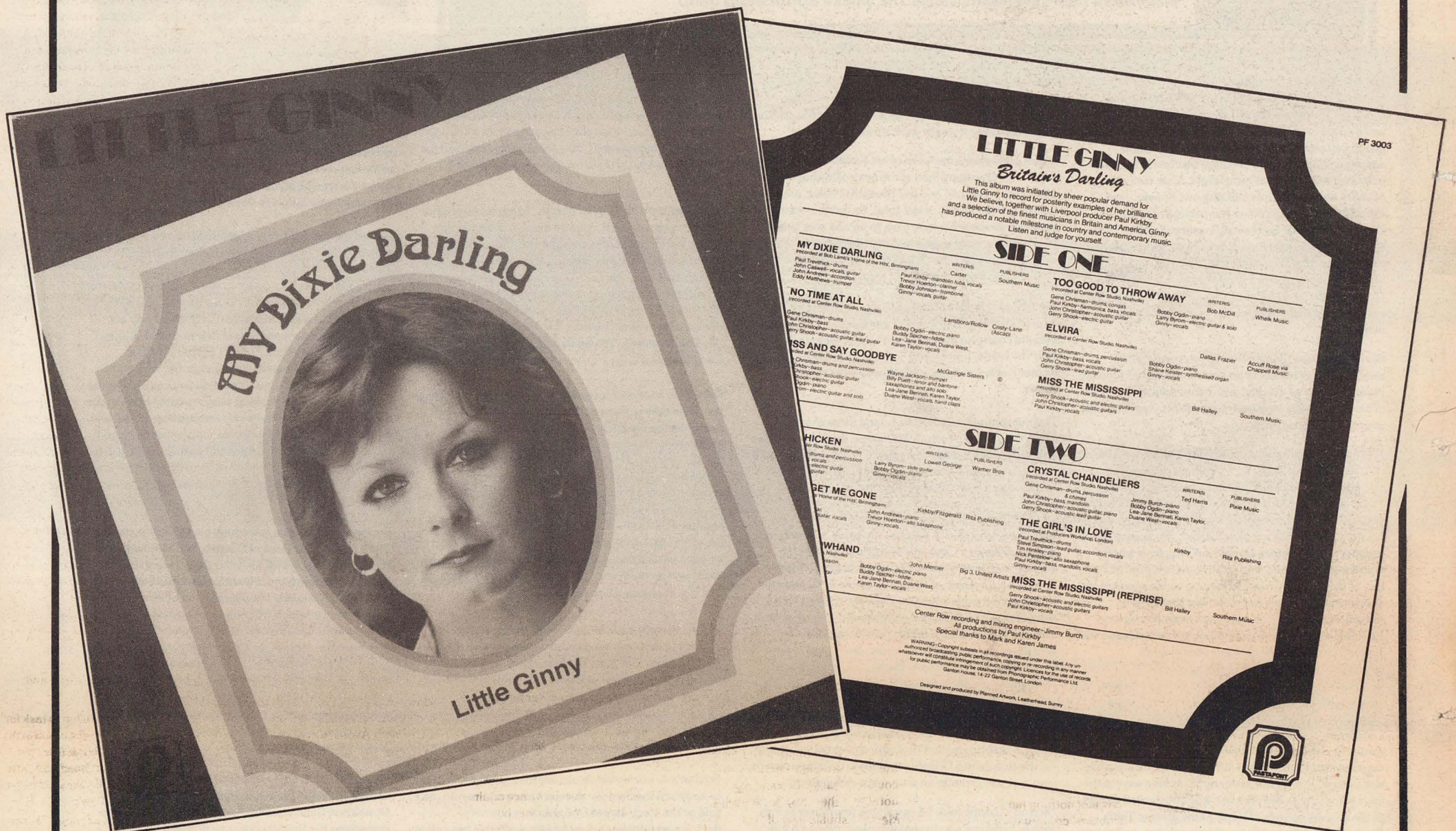
Well I'm sure you get the idea. A misnomer this - it's a compilation of album tracks and a few singles but the criterion for inclusion seems to be the 'Indian' connection - chart hits they're not. Always a successful stage act, the Indians never seemed to place too much emphasis on recording and quite frankly, with one or two exceptions, it shows. O.K. let's take an exception - a hit from last year, a really fine version of Arthur 'Big Boy' Crudups 'That's Alright Mama' - this is the stuff Indian albums could be made of. Great vocals and guitar, a really authentic rockabilly sound, Stray Cats or Dave Edmunds would be proud of this. Now don't get me wrong, most of the tracks are pleasant in a middle-of-the-road sort of way, it's just that the whole thing lacks bite or commitment - lack lustre might be a description.

Now Indian fans won't agree with any of this but that's O.K. because they know what the band can do live, the problem is, so do I, and this is far from the Indians at their best.

Noel Casey

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(Music & Video Week. 7th May '82)



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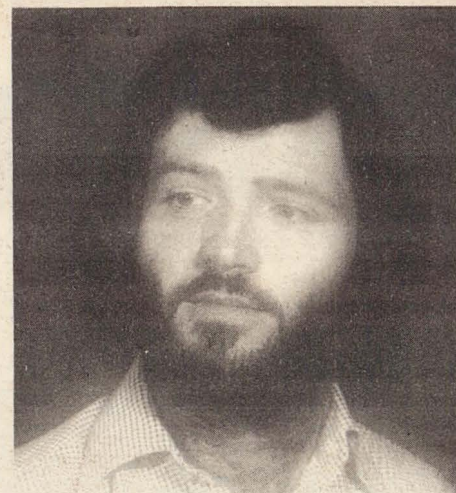
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"ONE OF THE BRITISH ORIGINALS"

AN INTERVIEW WITH JAMES DONALDSON

by Pete Nelson

Back in 1976 an L.P. was released which gained much critical acclaim in the country music press, and gathered a great deal of airplay on radio. It was at that time a milestone in British country music recordings, and for that matter in my opinion it still is. The album was called 'Justified' and it was by a three piece outfit from Lanarkshire called THE JAMES DONALDSON BAND.



The trio, lead by a very determined Scotsman, blazed a tremendous trail through TV and radio. From two excellent appearances on 'Opportunity Knocks' to radio spots on 'Country Club', 'Both Sides Now', the group certainly made their presence felt. Then suddenly it all fell apart, nothing was heard from the boys and they dropped out of sight. That was a couple of years ago, yet people still ring me, or ask me around the clubs whatever happened to the James Donaldson Band? So recently I went to find out, I knew that James was keeping his hand in writing material, and also putting songs down in his small makeshift studio at home, and knowing that a chat with James Donaldson is never short of interesting, I welcomed the excuse to go and talk with one of the first British originals.

Born in Glasgow, James Donaldson spent the first sixteen years of his life in an environment that tends to bring a person up quickly, and James admits that a few of his songs today look back towards his youth, and his memories of those days.

"People like to perpetuate the myth", he said, speaking of the violence of Glasgow. "People are people wherever you go, working class people are the same all over." "Liverpool people are supposed to be hard, but I think you will find that the harder the people are supposed to be, the warmer they are in actuality". His answer didn't surprise me, for James Donaldson's music is wholly warm and melodious, and believe any reputation he has of being a hard man. In fact the whole secret of his songwriting probably lies in the fact that he is a sentimental person. OK, there are a few people who have been on the wrong end of one of his tackles on the football pitch who will disagree with me, but nevertheless James admits to being moved, to the point of tears, at the report of some child being assaulted, or the simple process of listening to a singer sincerely singing a set of sad lyrics.

James Donaldson's first exposure to country music came around twenty five to thirty years ago, his Father was an avid country fan, as many Scotsmen were in the days before it was fashionable, and he exposed James to the country sounds of Hank Snow, Ernest Tubbs, Webb Peirce, Johnny Horton, George Jones, and many more.

Donaldson Senior was in a correspondence club which enabled him to collect unheard of albums by these artists. "If only he had kept them", said James, I must admit the same thought went through my head.

Other early memories were of his Father taking him to see Lonnie Donegan, then at the peak of his popularity, and Johnny Duncan and the Bluegrass Boys, another act high in the charts of the time. So James' country pedigree goes back a long way, in fact he was singing Hank Williams songs as a kid, at a time when most kids are on nursery rhymes. It was natural to him, his Father sang them, and James sang along.

"I could play three chords on the guitar then, and had no ambition to go any further" James said, but fate has a way of changing things. When he was seventeen, just after the family had moved to Darwen in Lancashire, he met Kevin Cookson, who shared a liking for the guitar.

The common bond of music bound them together when they met at Technical College, and indeed it has linked them for the past 16 years. They started learning Beatles tunes together just for the fun of it, and it helped them both develop their guitar technique.

In 1972 James Donaldson first heard Gordon Lightfoot, who was to become probably his greatest single influence. 'Country Meets Folk' was going strong, and James heard Lightfoot singing 'Bitter Green' on the show, and he was hooked. "It was the guitar sound probably more than the songs which attracted me" James said. - Lightfoot was by that time becoming well known for his 'warm' guitar sound, - and it was something Donaldson wanted to develop. "I remember the first album I heard of Lightfoot's, oh, that guitar sound, I realised that I was only strumming, doing nothing. I realised that by copying this style both Kevin and I could learn a guitar part each, Kevin playing the lead, and me playing the rest. Donaldson and Cookson extended that sound to great advantage on the first James Donaldson Band L.P. their acoustic guitars criss cross in an amazingly rich pattern.

"It was", James said. "A small step from there to folk music. Lightfoot was probably looked upon as a folk singer, so that was the direction we took. We picked up

bass player Terry Walsh on the way, and we named the trio 'Triad'. We finished quickly with the folk clubs, or I should say they finished with us!, probably because we didn't conform to what they classed as folk music, we were too contemporary". This problem has followed the James Donaldson Band throughout their career it seems.

So James went back, as he puts it, "to my roots, or what I was brought up with, country music". It was at this point that Don Williams was just starting to make his presence felt in Britain, and on James Donaldson. "Not to copy him" say James. "There was not a lot to copy from Don Williams instrumentally, but I felt our style lent itself to what Don Williams was doing." This was demonstrated again on their L.P. through tracks like 'No Use Running', 'Wrong Road Again', and 'Come Early Morning'.

An appearance on 'Opportunity Knocks' was a success, but when they worked on the country clubs they were met either by complete acceptance or complete indifference, this a sure sign to me that an act is going to be big. Of this period of his life James says that "Looking back, I realise that we should have compromised a little, and put in some standards that the audience knew, but the audiences might have comprised a little as well". "You were ahead of your time?", I offered, "Probably", James came back, "But if we went on the road again, we would do songs from way back, and do them our way, mixed with our own songs this would give us a balance.

Before, we only had the Don Williams material to balance up our own songs, and we were doing the Williams material that no one else was doing". As I said, they were ahead of their time. When the trio split from the scene they had done a lot more than a lot of bands do in a lifetime of singing country music, (in Britain that is), but it still remains that they could not make a living, so it was back to a "day job" for the boys.

So that's it, one would think, another good talent lost to audience indifference or even ignorance, but no, as I said at the start, James Donaldson is one very determined Scotsman, and he simply buried himself in his day to day work, and carried on writing his songs.

This of course brought us around to that often discussed subject of the "British" country music songwriter. "The one thing that I hope for, is that someone would take up my songs, it doesn't necessarily have to be me that's gonna get that recording contract or a good deal off a record company, maybe somebody else will, but how the hell do you get your songs to these people?"

James quoted an instance where he sent a couple of songs to Val Doonican, knowing Doonican's awareness of country music, and his style. After a couple of months and another letter to Mr. Doonican, he got a reply stating that the singer didn't need the songs as they were 'unsolicited'. I thought any act would welcome a good flow of new material. James was more to the point, "I don't believe that Val Doonican even listened to the songs, the reply states 'unsolicited' songs, does that mean you can't get by the publishers who are pushing songs to him? Is it just the managers and publishers who are pushing songs? and does it mean that a guy like me writing songs has no chance? I don't know it still seems to me that British is taboo, maybe if the songs were recorded, and nobody said they were British, maybe then we could get away with it."

So James Donaldson is working in engineering in the small Lancashire Town of Darwen, and although he is reasonably happy with his lot at the moment, I still feel the music pulling him....He still cares a lot about music, and not from a purely egotistical point of view. He cares that the music which he loves is not getting the full recognition it deserves. What of the future? I asked, "If and when the James Donaldson Band comes back as a performing unit, it will be only on selected dates. Hopefully, in that way we will be working to people who want to listen to our music, but in any case I can't see us getting back yet for at least 12 months. When we do start gigging though it will still only be the same old James Donaldson Band".....

For me, and I'm sure many other people who had the chance of seeing the outfit, that same old James Donaldson Band would do very nicely....His talent is something the British scene can ill afford to lose permanently.

Hi. It seems as though rockabilly and the music of the fifties and sixties is becoming more and more popular with our readers. This assumption is based upon the growing number of letters and calls I'm receiving and for which I thank you. I am interested in your views, your likes and dislikes, your involvement with the scene. Drop me a line and let's see your views in print.

Dave Edmunds

It's been a case of good news and bad news for Dave. First the good news. Edmunds returned to Britain from a triumphant tour of the states, where he was promoting his excellent 'D.E.7' (Arista) album. He was then rushed to hospital, reportedly suffering from an internal haemorrhage. However, the illness proved to be not too serious and Dave was soon performing again. Edmunds will be in the studios again shortly, producing a new album for the Stray Cats.

Taking Care Of Elvis

'Graceland' now an operating museum is expected to make yet another fortune for the estate of the late Elvis Presley. At prices of five dollars for adults and three for children, the operators reckon on grossing 14,000 dollars a day. There will also be the usual franchises, souvenir stalls, refreshment bars, etc, to swell the take. Didja know that there are fifteen American states celebrating an Elvis Day? My 'Presley Publication Of The Month' is 'The Complete Elvis', edited by Martin Torgoff, published by Delilah. This 256 page book carries twelve articles by various writers, two of which are works of fiction, an 'A-Z' and tons of photos. It'll cost you around six pounds, but worth every penny. An 'Elvis Disco' will be held at the Sportsman Inn, Grassmoor, near Chesterfield twice in September. The 'Woodin Shades', 212 Bishopgate, London, as usual, has it's Elvis Film/Dance event this month and the St. James Hospital, Leeds had all sorts of Elvis events on 28th August. Elvis video cassettes available in the UK include 'Fun In Acapulco', 'King Creole', 'G.I. Blues', 'Girls, Girls, Girls', 'Blue Hawaii', 'Paradise Hawaiian Style' and 'Roustabout'.

'The Official Elvis Presley Fan Club Of Great Britain' have

published a magazine containing the story of the fan club's first twenty-five years. This interesting story is told in around 30,000 words on twenty-seven pages. Photos are a little sparse, but the five black and whites included are of extreme value. Author Maureen Covey reveals many facts hitherto unknown as she reveals the growth of what must be the world's most complex and sophisticated fan club. Price, a mere £1.25.

Star Tracking

The Dutch label Rockhouse are pumping more albums into the musical economy. The Blue Cats have changed their name and personnel quite often, but this doesn't seem to have affected their performance on 'The Blue Cats'. Good value this with sixteen trax: 'Fight Back'/'Hot & Cold'/'Tired & Sleepy'/'Love Me'/'Jump Cat Jump'/'Up A Lazy River'/'Who Stole My Blue Suede Shoes'/'Who Slapped John'/'Wild Night'/'Thunder & Lightning'/'Live Fast Die Young'/'Made For Rockin'/'Slippin' In'/'Idle On Parade'/'Birth Of The Boogie'/'Everybody's Rockin'".

The Blue Cats lead quite nicely into the next Rockhouse L.P. 'Dave Phillips & The Hot Rod Gang'. Dave Phillips, fans may recall, used to be the bass slapper and lead vocalist with The Blue Cat Trio. This time we have fourteen trax: 'Wild Youth'/'She Will Come Back'/'56 Boys'/'Tainted Love'/'Love Me'/'My Turn'/'On The Move'/'One & Only'/'Flea Brain'/'Should I Ever Love Again'/'Summertime'/'Baby Blue'/'Just Can't Believe'/'Wow'.

A way from the British rockabillys, Rockhouse turn to Johnny & Dorsey Burnette to provide a little real nostalgia. Thirteen trax plus an interview with Johnny Burnette, make this an essential piece of listening: 'Little Ole You'/'Cincinnati Fireball'/'You're Sixteen' (lead vocals, Dorsey). 'I Wanna Love My Baby'/'That's The Way I Feel'/'Just Keep On A-Goin'/'/'Baby Doll Blue Eyes'/'Hey Stranger'/'Address

THE ROCKABILLY SCENE



Happy birthday to Jerry Lee Lewis on the 29th on this month.

Unknown'/'Lovesick Blues'/'Cincinnati Fireball'/'Finders Keepers' (lead vocals, Johnny). 'I'm Happy' (lead vocals, Johnny & Dorsey). Ace Records have come up with another sixties based album, entitled 'Texas Dance Hall Favourites'. The fourteen trax feature Charles Christy & The Crystals. Joe 'King' Carrasco, Augie Meyers, The Ron-Dels, with and without Delbert McClinton. Trax are 'Big Boss Man', 'It's Only Make Believe', the sultry Conway Twitty hit, 'For Your Love', a terrific cover of the Yardbirds smash, 'In My Room', 'Justine', 'Tell Me', 'Rock Esta Noche', 'Mathilda', 'Prosperity Street', 'Just A Gigolo'/'I Ain't Got Nobody', 'You Cannot Tell A Lie', 'Fanny Mae' and 'Searchin'".

Clubbin'

The Jubilee Hall, Maldon, Essex hold 'Billie' dances every few weeks, featuring 'live' bands and a disco. Forthcoming dates are 4th and 18th of September, 2nd October. Why not drop in and ask for Maurice. Tell him Pete sent you. Don't forget to send me your club dates as soon as possible.

Finally, let's not forget that on the 7th, Buddy Holly would have been just forty-six years old, had he lived. Bill Black would have been ten years older on the 17th.

That's it. See ya.

Pete Smith

Front Porch PICKERS

OLD TIME AND BLUEGRASS

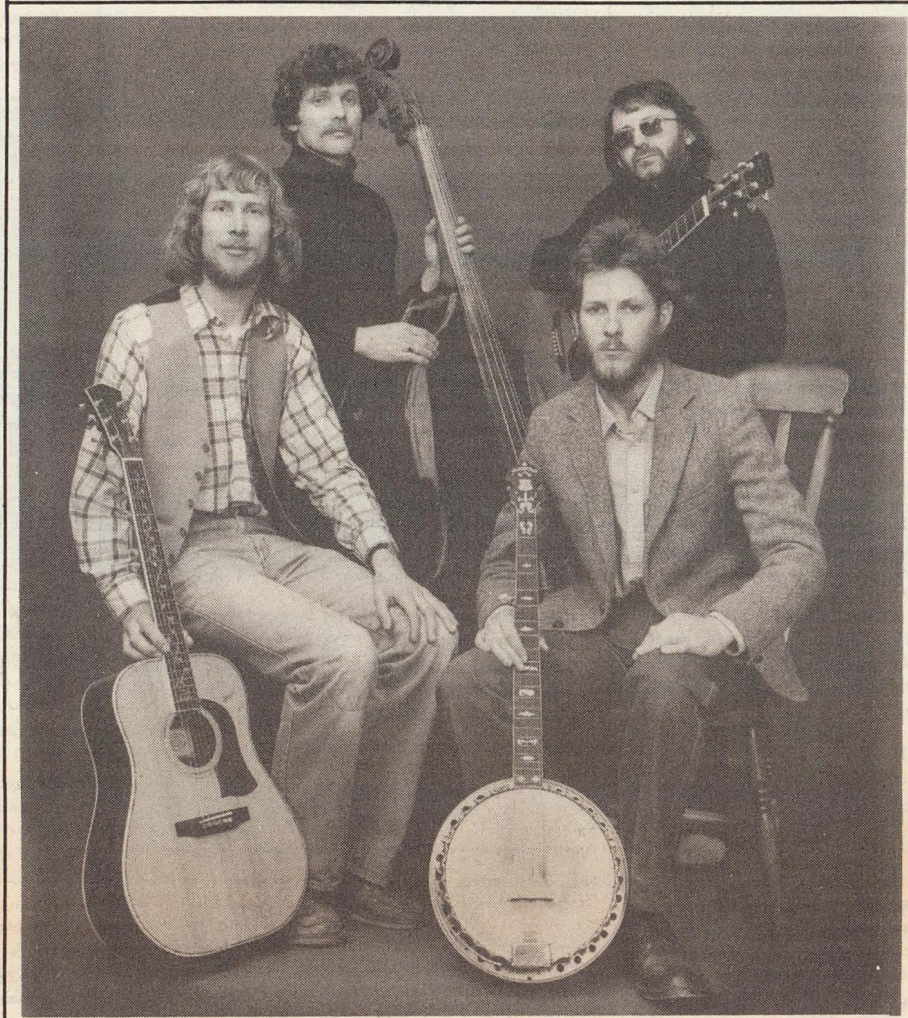


BY BEV WILLIAMS

The Sheik of Arabee and his harem, alias Jack, Mavis & Anita staged a lovely show at their regular venue, the Kingsway Hotel, Rochdale; which featured their own band, Haphazard, The Rainy City Bluegrass Boys, (fresh back from a successful trip to the States), The Chevin Ramblers, whose mandolin player and wife, Chris & Christine Metcalf, have also just returned from the States, with stars of the show, Bill Keith, Jim Rooney and Simon Mayor, British fiddle and mandolin champion player taking time off from his regular folk outfit, Spreadthick. This is the band that used to have as one of its members, will known banjo player Andy McGee.

An enthusiastic very full house greeted Haphazard, who belted out the old favourites with young Anita proving a favourite on the bass. The Rainy City Boys, surely the smartest 'grass band around, followed with more main line songs and instrumentals. Chris Metcalf drew his own round of applause for some fine mandolin playing with the Chevin Ramblers. Another high point of the night was undoubtedly when Bill Hyde joined Bill Keith, Jim Rooney and Simon on stage to twin their banjos in song and instrumental.

The Brit., muso's Steve Read and Phil Morley currently visiting the States, mail me that this is the high



Cats Cradle - who played at the Ush Festival recently.

time of the year over there with festivals round every corner, well, every hundred miles or so. Steve's latest postcard lists the people he's seen and met and it reads just like a who's who of Bluegrass and Newgrass. Everybody I've spoken to who's been over, says the same. It's Bill Munro, Seldom Scene and Jimmy Martin all on the same day! (Must go sometime).

With Glen Campbell due over again soon. His show is worth seeing for the inclusion of Carl Jackson on banjo alone.

Joe Val is set to tour in October, but the only date I have for him is the 24th of the month at Buxton, Derbyshire. The other venues I have are: Cecil Sharpe House, Regents Park Road, London, The Kingswinford Community Centre, Kingswinford, West Midlands and the Carleton Inn, West End Promenade, Morecambe.

BLUEGRASS BY THE SHORE

This forms part of a country music festival at the Pavilion, Marine Parade, Worthing this month. The bluegrass section runs from 2 till 5 in the afternoon and is headed by the ever popular Duffy Brothers, with support provided by American Jig, Bluegrass Stampede, Colin Tipping and Sally Brown, The Bluegrass Band and John Hopkins with Cole Ruby. Bryan Golbey and Nick Strutt are booked for the main evening concert.

REGULAR 'GRASS VENUES

Nearly every night during the week now sees Pete Stanley playing at the Texas Lone Star Restaurant in London's Knightbridge, but on Sunday's Dave Godbey and John Softly take over, alternating with Dave Cotton.

SUNDAY: The Runaway String Band at The Four Marys, Linlithgow, Scotland.

TUESDAY: The Sackville String Band at Slattery's, Capel Street, Dublin and Lee Valley String Band at O'Flynn's, Union, Quay, Cork.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY: Old Hickory at The Clarendon, Maryhill Road, George's Cross, Glasgow. This band also plays every Saturday afternoon at The Star Club, Carlton Place, Glasgow.

THURSDAY: Tom Travis Pickers Club at The Spring Gardens, Courtpal, between Marple Bridge and Romley near Stockport.

FRIDAY: The superb Train 45 with Bryan Curtis at The Royal, Old Church Road, Bell Green, Coventry.

MONTHLY: You can see the Chevin Ramblers at The Grove Inn, Back Row, Leeds on the last Thursday and the Sussex Pickers Club meet on the first Tuesday of the month at The Beachcomber, The Esplanade, Seaford, Sussex.

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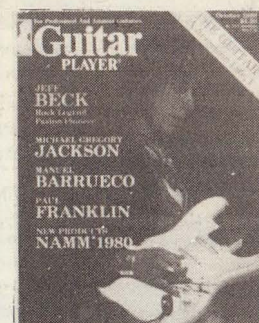
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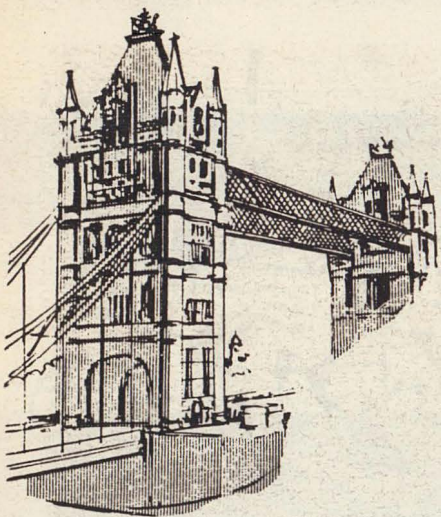
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The evening was compered by a couple of Bill's good mates - Roy from the Deri Club and Bob from the Mississippi Club and I think it is nice the way that these three clubs, that technically I suppose, could be termed rivals, have always helped each other out.

Thanks were extended to all concerned for giving their services free (and as it was a Saturday night it probably cost the bands quite a lot in lost fees). Their kind gesture helped to raise enough money to pay for a good commemorative grave headstone for a man they all liked a lot.

THE SHOW

Bill's clubs were always noted as friendly dancing clubs so it was decided that a dance was more in keeping than a concert and when I arrived at just after seven the floor was packed to the music of George Moody and the Country Squires. There is nothing new you can say about this band, always popular, always with the volume right, always giving good entertainment so I'll just say they were the same as always.

Tom Weston Revival Band took over, to keep the dance floor full, certainly the band showed why it is rapidly becoming one of the most popular on this club circuit.

BILL'S OWN BAND

On the last three or four time I'd spoken to Bill he was always raving about his band and how they were really getting it together. Called Rodeo Times, they have

LONDON SCENE

Last month was dominated for me by a sad yet pleasurable occasion -- the memorial evening for the late London Club/Band leader Bill Tupper. Held at a peak holiday period I wondered if perhaps the turn-out would suffer? I couldn't have been more wrong! The Pitsea Leisure Centre was full to overflowing and I think the only complaints made by anyone all night was about the queue waiting to get a drink!

News from the Greater London Regions

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ **Mick Green** ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

made one or two changes but are carrying on as a band in their own right, I have to say I was very impressed. They opened up with just one acoustic guitar support to a three-part vocal harmony, the following number featured only two with 'Duelling Banjos', then the rest of the band joined them centre stage for a couple of originals 'Out In The Snow' and 'Ride 'em Cowboy' before throwing in some old favourites and finishing with Amarillo Highway as an encore. I want to see more of this band.

MIKE SCOTT TRACY, ILL

Mike turned up but was obviously ill, so as everything was running late (due to all the encores) and they still had three more acts, it was decided he'd be best going home to bed, however not before he'd told me that he had got his band together again for the odd gig and he was also working occasionally with Colt 45.

During the change-over on stage the Indian National Dancers put on a very popular display and how they had the energy in the heat of the hall I just don't know...At gone ten O'clock, Jefferson County came on stage to face a still packed floor, from the opening number to the last and the crowd would not let them go until lead singer Freddie (who had left his daughter's wedding celebrations to attend), gave his comic version of Old MacDonald!

The closing act was Yorkie, (mates of mine from a long way back) and I must say the most improved band on the London scene. With Pat in an over-the-top Mae West outfit she borrowed from her brother (true!), plus Roy and Frank's really nice country voices, they kept the packed crowd happy until about 12.30.

ESSEX RADIO - COUNTRY?

The only jarring note all evening was that on the drive over I had Essex Radio's country music programme on. I know it was live from an outside location but that band Powder River Pioneers must be the worst I have ever heard! Somehow they managed to make what is generally a pretty lousy programme even worse! The standard I have heard from this programme is such that, if this is the best the station can do, country music would be better served by them omitting a country programme from their schedules!

Dick Edwards Duo, both ex pro footballers, would like to work the London area so anyone looking for a duo to comprise part of a show or the full evening give Dick a ring. I note Dick also has a new EP out.

NEWS FROM

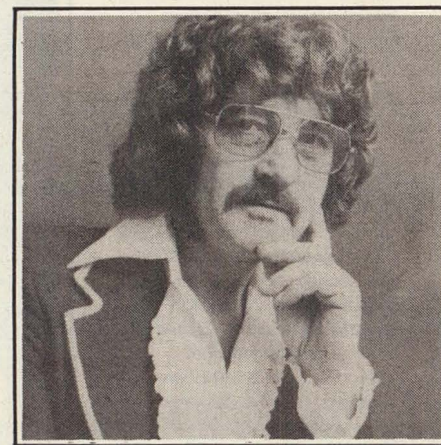
Grosvenor Rooms: Newly married promoter Alvin Michaels informs me that London's plushiest country venue extends its country nights on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from October 4. These week nights to feature one band and country disco, from around £1.00 with tables bookable. Friday will see the more pricey acts/shows at around £2.50. On all occasions they should be able to offer a fuller a la carte menu, or a basket meal and the evening goes on until 2am.

A nice gesture at this venue on August 27th sees the management give away £1,000 worth of tickets, to those who went out to the Falklands and their families. The show that night include Rattlesnake Annie McGowan, Tony Goodacre and Jamestown Ferry.

PROFILE OF A LONDON BAND --

Rusty Douch has been around the country music scene for a long time and has worked with several other outfits including the Little Buddies with Slim Pickins, etc. Of late, however, he has been concentrating on his own band and getting them lots of work plus those vital rebookings in and around the London area. The current line-up besides Rusty himself on rhythm guitar and lead vocals is Rod Harrison, lead guitar and vocals; Garrick Dewar bass/harmonica and vocals; and Pete Sellows, Drums (although I understand Pete is shortly emigrating to New Zealand).

Wild Bunch is possibly not the right title, for I would have thought that 'Good Fun' Bunch would have described them better as humour and comedy are liberally interlaced with their music. That is not to say that they do not take their act seriously, they do, and their harmonies show that they have put a lot of time and work in, but their cod version of the Crystal Chandeliers or Rod picking his guitar with his teeth during Put Another Log On The Fire, (I've even seen Rusty dressed as Charlie Chaplin), may put off the ever so purists who go just for the music. But me, I think it adds to the entertainment value.



Rusty is a good front man who believes in audience participation and works well with the intimate club crowds. Their programme is varied and contains enough of the old favourites to keep those people happy. In short a good entertaining club band.

That's it, folks. As the cartoon say. Keep me informed Mick Green, 11 King Harolds Way, Bexleyheath, Kent. Tel: 01 310 5784. Cheerio!

ANOTHER FESTIVAL

Hot on the heels of the Peterborough Festival comes the Worthing all British Festival scheduled for the weekend of 17/18/19th September at the Pavillion, Worthing. The Festival which boasts being the best all British, must be one of the biggest show cases of acts strictly British. The weekend starts off with an informal dance and cabaret. This year with Al Barret's Linemen and Northants impressive singer/songwriters Ann & Ray Brett. As in previous years at Brighton, it's staged in conjunction with the B.C.M.A.

Saturday leaves the morning to recover from the night before and time for a push in the old bathchair along the front before 2pm when the very popular 'Bluegrass by the shore' starts. Headlining is Peterborough's Duffy Brothers, followed closely by American Jig (West Midlands), Bluegrass Stampede (Herts), Colin Tipping & Sally Brown (Teeside) and appropriately titled the Bluegrass Band (Sussex). The hosts for this extravaganza of picking and grinning are John Hopkins and Cole Ruby (Herts). The afternoon show finishes at 5pm giving you 2 hours to grab a bite to eat before 7pm when the big show gets under way. Roxon Roadshow are shown as top of the bill, but with acts such as Tammy Cline and Kelvin Henderson also on that night, who can choose a headliner! Other acts scheduled to appear are Nick Carters' Yellowstone Picnic Band, (Hants), Emerald (N. Ireland), and Tony Falcon and the Bald Eagle Band (Sussex) and the show is scheduled to end at 11pm.

Sunday, if you're up by 12 noon then you'll just be in time to get to the Denton Lounge for 'Country in the bar' with Bill Hurren for two hours of country music washed down with the odd drink or two. This dinner time gig though is only open to those holding series tickets. Now nothing to do but explore Worthing for a whole 4 hours till 6pm when the evenings main festival gets going. Stu Stevens heads another well put together bill. Also on that night are the Naden Brothers (Lancs), for me they are well worth a trip to Worthing on their own, Brian Golbey & Nick Strutt, I've never understood why a talent like Brian Golbey has not gained the full recognition he surely deserves.

Essex are represented by the extremely popular George Moody & The Country Squires, (who have some upcoming dates further into Kent, so watch out for them). Winner of The C.M.R.U. Nashville Star Search competition earlier in the year Jenny Peters gains a well deserved spot on the show, no doubt featuring some of her refreshingly original songs. Last but certainly not

least, everybody's favourite, American Expression, who I believe now prefer to be known just as 'Expressions'. I get more phone calls and letters asking if I know where this band are appearing, than any other. If all this has whetted your appetite and started you packing your bags, you can obtain a series ticket which covers the weekend including as previously stated the Sunday lunchtime gig. The series tickets cost £10, £9.50 and £8.00. Tickets and further details from the box office on Worthing 202221. If you intend to stay over for the weekend, there is special accommodation offer of 2 nights bed and breakfast at £17 for a scale 1 accommodation and £13 for scale 2. That sounds extremely reasonable and for campers and caravanners there are sits available.

As in the past at Brighton the whole festival is compered by organiser Neil Coppendale. Looking at the set up of the Festival it appears to have been well thought out.

BY THE SEA?

Yep, this month sees yet another opportunity for a country break by the sea, at bargain prices. How does a week of good music for £20 (plus vat) including accomodation grab you, no doubt in the wallet. The Seawick Lido, St Osyth Beach, Clacton, in Essex has arranged just that. The week goes from the 18th to 24th inclusive. The details I have are as follows: Saturday: Rattlesnake Annie McGowan, plus Barbary Coast. Sunday the same. Monday: American Expressions plus Duffy Brothers. Tuesday: Jimmy Lawton plus Sandi Hart & Levi. Wednesday: Tammy Cline show. Thursday: Barbary Coast, Kelvin Henderson, Yellowstone Picnic band and the Tammy Cline show. Friday: Wendel Adkins and Free Spirit. During the week the Tony Keenan disco will be keeping things moving. Further details and bookings, phone (255) 820416.

AROUND THE CLUBS

The Deri CMC., are still battling against low attendances, seems strange considering the high standard of bands booked. This month sees Jenny Spellard and Spellbound, 'Obsons Choice, Yorkie, Renegade and a special, featuring fiddle player Drew Taylor and Drew's Brew.

The Golden Spur CMC at Faversham is heading towards its busy season with Tony Falcon and his Bald Eagle band plus Tony Goodacre this month and as an extra to their normal club night next month they have a special at the Kings Hall, Herne Bay featuring The Frank Jennings show plus Expressions and J.R. Taylor.

The Triangle CMC., at the Village Hall, Chilham, near

Canterbury, feature Southbound and Gunsmoke

The Jubilee Trail still has its monthly meet, September sees Cuttin' Loose and Debbie and Chas. The club meets at the Town Hall, Sittingbourne.

A regular Sunday club is the Virginian's C&W Club, it meets at the North Heath Social Club, Mill Road, Northumberland Heath, Erith, booked there in September are Reg Haynes Outfit, Rio, Nightwing and Weston Revival Country Band.

One Friday venue is the Border Patrol CMC., which meets at the Treble Chance Saloon, Basildon, Essex, their acts include Jefferson County, Trucker, Eddy Edwards and the Alamo and George Moody and the Country Squires.

There's a country show on the 24th at Crayford Town Hall featuring Ronnie Winters, Jeannie Sinclair, and American Brew, further details from the box office.

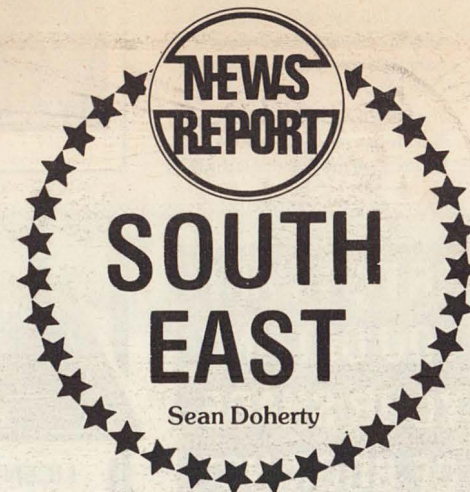
COUNTRY BY PHONE

No not the successor to country by post, but recently a couple of budding songwriters from deepest Canterbury played me their latest demo over the phone before sending a copy 'recorded' delivery. The writers Lillian Bilson and Peter Maple have recently had two of their many songs put down at ace steelie Dave Nutts demo studio at Chartham near Canterbury. The two songs 'Every Night I Wake Up Crying'/'I Can't Tell That You're Lying', sound very promising and given the right treatment by the right artist? (always very difficult). They would be pleased to hear from anybody interested in original country songs, just give me a call, I will be happy to put you in touch.

Received a large envelope of publicity material from Little Ginny which in fact burst open in the post, it contained lots of details of her excellent new album 'My Dixie Darling' PF 3003. My favourite on the album is Crystal Chandelier and I never thought I'd get to like that song again, but Ginny's done it.

RADIO MEDWAY

Recent guests included Peter Allison from Country Publications who specialises in importing American country books, it made for interesting listening as did a recent guest, fitting in time to record a programme before jetting off behind the iron curtain. George Hamilton IV who was joined for a re-union meeting by Johnny Young and Luce Langridge who is backing



George on his extensive European tour. Yet another first for Medway was an exclusive first preview of George's new album due for release at the end of this month. The album is certainly different and should appeal to the wider middle of the road listener and the single off the album, Ralph McTells 'England' has the potential to chart. The album and single will be released on the Ronco label with Gordon Smith having set the whole thing up and handled the sweetening of the recordings which were put down in the states and then flown over here to Gordon. The single for instance has had a school choir added to great effect. The tracks so far scheduled for inclusion on the album are: Waiting For The Sun To Shine, Song For A Winters Night, Mull Of Kintyre, When We are Gone, Bunch Of Thyme, Me & The Elephant, England, and Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain. All seem to suit George's voice perfectly. So it's one to look out for.

This month sees the sixth BBC Radio Medway dance and cabaret show take place at the Woodville Halls, Gravesend, featuring from the USA., Wendel Adkins plus much acclaimed, Free Spirit, the scheduled date is Friday the 17th. Comper for the show of course is 'Whole Lotta' Country' presenter Larry Adams. Tickets should sell like centre court tickets at Wimbeldon, to see this Texas Outlaw. Further details phone Gravesend 534244.

That's it for another month, you can contact me on Thanet 601994 or write to 134 Rumfields Road, Broadstairs, Kent.

Ken Eades Wragby, Lincoln

READERS REVIEW

TALKING POINT

I have just returned from the country music weekend at Ladbroke Mercury Hotel, Watford and I feel I must put my thoughts on paper even at the risk of attracting a lot of 'flack'.

The general organisation and hotel accommodation were excellent and constituted superb value for money. It is, therefore, very sad that the general standard of the music was way below par.

I fully appreciate the difficulties that Steve Darrington had in mustering a Roxon Roadshow team together, and under the circumstances I felt they did a reasonable job. The majority of the rest of the music was, unfortunately, stale and unexciting both in choice of material and performance. It was like stepping back five or even ten years - a trip in memorabilia - and what was worse, the audience didn't seem to care!

This was my first experience of a 'southern' audience - who seem to judge a band by how quickly the dance floor fills up! As a consequence the noise was undecipherable - nobody seemed to listen! The music as a result became one paced and to be truthful boring. Progressive material from such writers as Rodney Crowell and Guy Clarke, major songwriters in the States, was therefore ignored by the bands as it tends to be listening material and these customers certainly didn't want that! But look at where British country music is today - it is suffering. A new outlook on the material presented is desperately needed, and when a

band like Highway Shoes does this and then has to fold because they are banging their heads against brick walls, it is a sad reflection, not on the material - but on the audiences that won't listen! I wonder what would have happened to these lads if they had been a 'northern' band - where audiences listen and reward good musicianship when they hear it! (I can hear those southern six-shooters being loaded from here).

Now let me say that 2 bands really impressed me. Firstly, Company's Comin' - a 3 piece band - bass, rhythm and steel, who at least had an audience that couldn't dance; they were eating and drinking at the time. Here at last were musicians who were in tune, knew their material well, were expert pickers and enjoyed presenting their songs. Add to this a singer with a superb voice - interesting modern material - well presented with good changes in pace, atmosphere and feeling. I know they don't like playing in country clubs - I wouldn't, if this audience was typical - but as I told them - come north - you'll go down a bomb.

Secondly, Al Barrett and his Linemen - who succeeded where others had failed - people danced - people listened and their material was wide ranging (some nice Eddie Rabbitt there lads!) and well presented.

There were 3 other acts where you could hear a pin drop - Slim Pickin and the Duffy Brothers (both superb, but it was their humour this audience wanted, not their music) and the other moment of silent

reverence? Oh yes, of course, the raffle!....

Ah well, I feel better for that. Does you good to have a good moan. Anyway, don't get me wrong. I thought it was great value, I'll be at the next weekend, so you can take pot shots at me then - or lacerate my legs with those spurs - you'll be able to spot me easily - I'm the one who just wears trainers, jeans and an ordinary T-shirt. See you.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

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LINDA CASSADY

LINDA CASSADY makes her 3rd UK tour this autumn, touring with Dave Bryan and Moonshine (who recently toured with Warner Mack and backed him at the Wembley country music festival at Easter). Dates confirmed thus far are as follows:-

SEPTEMBER

Wed 8th Congress Theatre, Cwmbran, South Wales
Fri 10th New Hall, Tiverton, Devon
Sat 11th St. Christophers Social Club, Romiley, Stockport
Sun 12th Hunstanton, Norfolk
Tue 14th William Jacksons Club, Hull
Wed 15th Kings Arms Hotel, Berwick upon Tweed
Thu 16th Evenwood Social Club, Evenwood, Co. Durham
Fri 17th Lysarts Social Club, Holton le Moor, Lincolnshire
Sat 18th Coronation Hall, Ulverston, Cumbria
Tue 21st Hotel Metro, Aberdeen
Wed 22nd Grand Ole Opry, Glasgow
Thu 23rd Wayfarers C&W Club, Markinch, Scotland
Fri 24th Gilberdike Village Hall, Nr Howden, Humberside
Sat 25th Wildwood South C&W Club, Southampton
Sun 26th Frontier Club, Batley, Yorkshire
Tue 28th Recreation Club, Pickering, North Yorkshire
Wed 29th Tramps Nightclub, Worcester

OCTOBER

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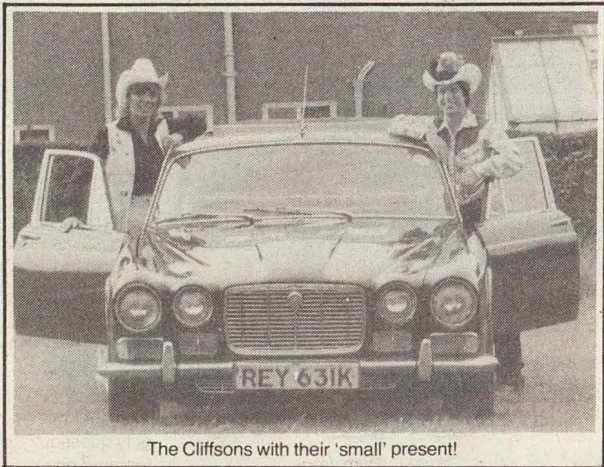
NORTH WALES & BORDER COUNTIES

This month I've spent most of the month here in my own region, having spent two out of the last four weeks touring country music venues up on the North Wales coast. Things are really swinging along the coast, as we are right at the height of the holiday season, and I must say that as far as the holiday venues are concerned there seemed very little evidence of any recession.

The camps are packed solid with many pubs and clubs presenting country music regularly in an attempt to win their share of Joe Public's holiday spends. The only casualties of this, seem to be the bonafide country music clubs who have to charge at the door to exist, having to compete with the many venues putting on free country music - infact very often with the same artists.

Cliffsons — Surprise

At one of the holiday venues presenting regular country music, Abergele's Golden Gate Holiday Club, the popular Wrexham husband and wife duo, the Cliffsons, appear every Tuesday evening throughout the season. Infact they have done so for the past five years. During that time they have made many friends among the holiday makers who come back to the camp year after year. Amongst those fans and



The Cliffsons with their 'small' present!

Mohicaners with Stunt Motor Cycling, Darts Exhibitions by World No. 1 ranked players, Eric Bristow and Maureen Flowers plus many more attractions. The event is sponsored by the Wrexham Round Table and programmes, tickets and further details can still be obtained from the Festival organiser Mike

year, so we'll look forward to seeing them again then. Thanks to fellow CMRU columnist Ann Carmody of Inverness for introducing me to Gambler. (They've done you proud down here Ann).

Lazyacre's September programme sees visits to the club by a real club favourite, John Aston, who will be on



Cotton Gin - new line up

friends is one Mr Jack Mason of Wigan, who this year brought them a 'small' present, as he put it, for Wanda to use to go shopping. He then handed them the keys and the log book of an immaculate XJ6 Jaguar (see photo), which he had no more use for since he had just bought himself a new Mercedes. There's only about 40,000 miles on the clock, and it's a beautiful machine. Now that's what I call a present. Friends of Tony Best please note!

Wrexham Wild West Festival

September is set for the re-run of the biggest charity event ever seen in North Wales, in 1978 over 20,000 people attended a tremendous day out at Borras Airfield in Wrexham. This year the evening music concert features Tammy Cline and Southern Comfort, Jim Ryder, Miki & Griff, Mustang, The Duffy Brothers, Poacher and is hosted by Wally Whyton, whilst the day's events are many and varied, there's a display by The Flying Bugles who are a parachute display team from the Light Infantry Depot in Shrewsbury, Motor Cycle Riding Competitions, Texas Pioneers Western Re-enactment, Marlboro Aerobatic Display, Western Riding Show by Gerard Naprous, The

Edwards on Wrexham (0978) 56712.

Around The Clubs

THE END OF THE TRAIL CMC at the Farmers Arms, Kempsey, near Worcester celebrates it's fifth anniversary this month with a visit from Bob McKinlay with Dixie Fried. This is a real thriving club which books the very best of British country and runs every other Saturday. Congratulations to Wilf and Joyce, the organisers, have a good birthday show and many happy returns.

LAZYACRE CMC in Shrewsbury continues to thrive and recent shows have featured some top British acts, The Muskrats, Kelvin Henderson (now working solo and in my opinion better than ever), Keith Manifold who always gives a good show, and a visit from popular Scottish country band, Gambler, who opened their first ever tour south of the border with a great performance at Lazyacre. Since then Gambler have appeared around the country at clubs from East Anglia to Devon and I'm told the reaction has been the same everywhere - "When are you coming back?" Well the answer to that is that the boys plan to come south again in March/April time next

with the great Cotton Gin (see photo of band with their new line up), also there's appearances by The Yellowstone Picnic Band, and a lovely young lady from Llanidloes, Maralene Powell, both acts making their first visits to the club.

TUMBLEDOWNWIND CMC at the Royal Victoria Hotel, Llanberis continues to live up to it's high reputation as one of the top country music clubs in North Wales and club organisers Evan and Brenda Jones tell me they also had a fantastic nights entertainment from Gambler. I'm looking forward very much to my own visit to the club on September 2nd.

Record News

Two new 'gig' albums I've just received are those by the Cliffsons - their third album, entitled 'It's A Lovely, Lovely World', and the first album by Cotton Gin - title - 'Standing Room Only'. I'll be giving both albums a spin and will give you my humble opinion of them next month.

Well that winds it up for another month, but any news etc., can reach me at 33 Lancaster Road, Harlescott Grange, Shrewsbury or by phone to Shrewsbury 58156 or 68482. Tell me and I'll tell the world. Bye for now.

THE RETURN OF BILLY THE KID & IT'S ALL CHANGE!



The popular Billy Corner is back, Billy who retired from Mustang a couple of years back is to join Moonshine, the Wakefield based trio, sometimes augmented by Hull based steelie Lynn Blakestone to act as support band to Dave Bryan and various visiting American artistes, (next being Linda Cassidy). I'm sure many join me in saying welcome back on the circuit Bill.

The person Bill is replacing, Tony Kempt, is I am very pleased to say joining my own band as from September first, as my former bass player, Tony Gafagan, (also ex-J.D. band) has now decided to devote more time to his trio called Tulsa Time, which also includes ex-Nightrider rhythm man and all round nice guy Graham Hall.

GRAHAM BROUGHTON

Isn't this man a fine performer. Everybody repeat after me - yeah! No drum machine, just a man and his guitar.... The Stables, Knaresborough, (every other Saturday), gave him a very well deserved ovation for a good night's entertainment there recently.

CHRIS & PETER FAIRHEAD

Peter being country D.J. and Commercial Producer for Pennine Radio, was responsible for organising a fine show in support of Action Research for the Crippled Child. Pudsey Civic Hall proved to be a good choice of venue, if somewhat expensive to hire at £90.00 a night. Midnight Flyer opened the show and while not a packed house, a very good crowd proved that a good nights fun was in store, and so it was. Gordon Lemonidine followed in fine voice he had the audience in the palm of his hand.

I can never understand why Jean Moody isn't a big star. With Duncan to back her on twelve string, both looking very smart, she once again proved to me to have an act worth a million pounds to somebody, somewhere. Her vocal range and power, rate head and shoulders clear of every other act I've seen in a long, long, long time.

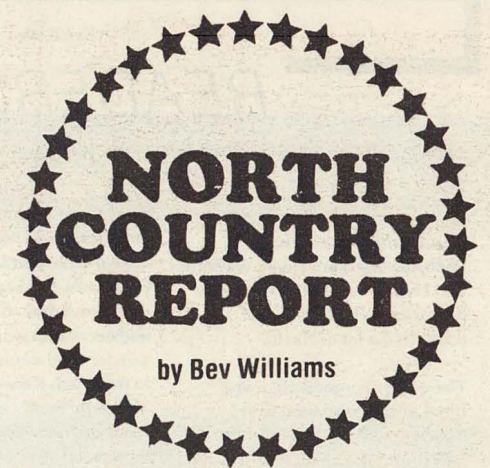
Natchez Trace had their act stopped half way through, for the presentation of certificates to two of their members, Roger Knowles & Dave Rowinski, for parachute jumps for the same charity. Both sustained aching ankles. Nick, having recently become a father had to bow out of the jump. The night was finished off by Bradford outlaws Dillinger, as humorous as ever and a very fitting end to a fine show.

Collier-Dixon temporarily without a bass player. Poor old Biff has lost a lot of weight, where from we ask, because of some virus. No doubt he'll be up and about again before we go to print.

The Rockytop CMC is situated in the village of Clowne, just north of Chesterfield. Barrie heads a very enthusiastic committee who pride themselves, justifiably on running a good club. A change of venue recently to the Anchor Inn has given them more room and the people have responded. If you are in the area on a Saturday night, get there early. Amongst the visitors to the club were the organiser of the Log Cabin CMC at Maston Moor which runs every Tuesday.

The Moorcock, Leeds has had some good shows recently from Mustang, Dave Bryan, also the Cliff Ledger Family.

Tony Andrews has found himself a guitarist. A foxy chick who sings too. A picture is promised. I can hardly wait.



Bob Preedy, country DJ for Radio Aire visited the Gipton one night. A pleasure to meet you Bob.

Eve Morris organised a hoe-down in aid of the PDSA of Leeds. A great night was had by all. The calling of Dave Ford was backed by Midnight Flyer. Everybody keeps asking when the next one is?

September at the Stables, Knaresborough, see's John & Violet with a special concert to celebrate their silver wedding. Artistes appearing will be the Pearsons, Mel Hague plus A.N. Other. Mel was the man who, on his Scottish tour, hit a certain note in his vocal range that caused a lady sitting in the front row to retire rapidly, but it turned out, the vibrations caused by Mel's voice returned to normal the hearing in her ear the doctors had given up on. The cure is certified as permanent. (Now about my back, Mel: will you sing to it?)

SUCCESS....

He did it again, proving that a good show with good publicity will sell. A near capacity house for the Tony Goodacre Show. Anybody who doubts that professionalism lives in British country music should watch the way Tony & Sylvia Goodacre work. The Royal Hall, Harrogate has now seen two Tony Goodacre shows and no doubt we will see more in the future. Harrogate council are to back Tony because he as proved successful.

Rotherham has the same approach at the Herringthorpe Leisure Centre. On September eighteenth visiting U.S. singer Wendal Adkins is backed by Free Spirit plus John Firminger on drums but I have heard that super steelie Pete Hayward has decided not to do the full tour?

A quick run down on some of your artists appearing in September in the Harrogate region.

Kentucky Blue have a good sound. Barry on lead vocals has a unique voice that makes this artist different. He's at the Chequers Inn on the 1st.

Country Sunshine is a band who work very hard to give a good nights entertainment. They were spotted on Yorkshire Television recently and sang two or three numbers, this could give them the break they deserve. They have a lot of respect in this locality and Pauline Womack is just one big bundle of joy. They can be seen appropriately at the Sun Inn on the 2nd September.

Tennessee Flat Tops are good fun and if you are not too deep into the what's country argument but enjoy a good night of light comedy with your music then you will enjoy them. They can be seen in Sept. at the Sun Inn and later at The Chequers Inn.

This month Bob McKinlay also takes his talents back to the stage at the Chequers Inn. Bob's reputation throughout the north of England is 100%. Just mention his name and this club is full by 8 O'clock.

Chuck Layburn - here is a band and a guy you must see to believe. Their act is most promising and can be seen at the Sun Inn.

In contrast, a guy who has been at the top for more time than we wish to think about is Mr Tony Goodacre. To be seen at The Chequers Inn with Arthur Layfield.

To end the month here, no better person to do it for you than Gordie West.



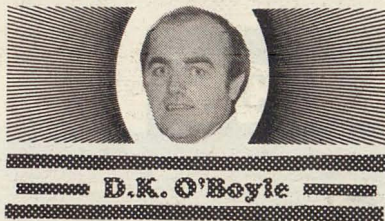
The Frontier Club at Batley staged their country night with Miki & Griff as top of the bill. I have head that their man on the mixer desk is not too friendly with Mustang for some reason and never gives them the best mix and good stage sound that they are capable of producing for their own part of the show, but they provided the good backing for Miki & Griff, who again showed why they remain at the top after so many years. Free Spirit were also in fine form! How times have changed from the days when Brad told me of when he was a little worried the first time they took to the big concert stage. A good Mike Storey presentation.

STATELY COUNTRY

Rumour has it that there is the possibility of a big presentation at a statley home in the north of West Yorkshire. No dates fixed or billing, but negotiations are under way. As it is said — watch this space.



SHADES GREEN



"Paschal The Host Of Country Sounds"

When it comes to live country entertainment, the only act around that can certainly pack them in is the RTE Radio 2 'Keep It Country' Roadshow. With host Paschal Mooney, the show had a full house venue at each concert, and for their appearance at the 'Mary from Dungloe International Festival' in Dungloe, Co. Donegal, the show broke all previous attendance records. For the show, country fans travelled from as far away as Co. Kerry just to see 'Keep It Country' live on stage. The Ostan na Rosann venue, line-up was superb, American Express started the show, and were followed by Eileen King and her much improved Kingsmen, Roscommon based Patsy McCaul and his Blue County could be better, while the show stoppers were local group Seamus McGee Sound, and Ray Lynam and the Hillbillies, all who performed the very best in great country sounds. The show was recorded by Radio 2, and host Paschal Mooney did a superb job, with the full backing of his audience. Many would have to say that country music in ballrooms is on the decline. But Paschal has proved that the 'concert format' appeals to all age groups, and the 'Keep It Country' Roadshow like the five night weekly radio series of the same name was an outstanding success.

After the concert Maggie Stapleton who made sure that the line-up was in order, revealed that the 3rd Keep It Country Awards, would be presented in the Golden Grill, Letterkenny on September 16th. My advice to country fans is, book your tickets well in advance, because just like the Dungloe show the awards show should be another sell-out. More details next month.

New Labels Emerge:

Two new recording labels have emerged on the music scene, The Rosses Records formed by country songbird Margo, and Blossom Records formed by duo Orange Blossom Special. For her debut on the label Margo went for an evergreen ballad 'Heaven Must Be Ireland', the title of her 15 track forthcoming album also. While Orange Blossom Special issue a self-composed 'Mama

on the C.B.', as their debut on Blossom Records, a most impressive country sound from the duo John McLaughlin and Michael McKenna... With the surviving major recording labels not keen on signing new talent, perhaps the future development of country music, will be advanced by artists forming their own labels.

Single File:

The Indians return with a long awaited single 'Once I Get Over You', with Flaming Star on vocals. Gene Stuart has an evergreen ballad 'Little Whitewash Chimney. Ann Breen has issued 'Dear Little Boy of Mine' while Leon has 'Jealous Heart' as her latest. Rockabilly band King Creole have 'Rock'n'Roll Band'. 'The Partner Nobody Chose', lovely one from country songstress Tracy Wells. Some good, some poor sounds.

Help Us Cheat:

While a lot of country artists know little about promotion, and their ill-fated management leave a lot to be desired in the field, I would say that Pastafont (music) Ltd., could do their artist Little Ginny more harm than good with their current form of promotion for her album 'My Dixie Darling'. Their hand out card reads 'Help Us Cheat' - Buy at least two copies of 'My Dixie Darling' by Little Ginny. Now I say that such promotion would not be approved of by BPI, BBC and Spotlight Publication who sponsor the charts, and such promotion could even be classed under the banner of chart-hyping. I feel that Little Ginny has the talent to make it without this sort of promotion, and would advise Pastafont to end such a campaign, even if it is just ment in fun, it could also give offence.

Country Sounds In Brief:

One of the most popular local station around is Radio Foyle, broadcasting to the north-west, and based on the banks of the Foyle. I received a tremendous welcome to the studios from Libby Hunter, who I think is one of the best female broadcasters around. The audience figures for the station are impressive, with much credit



"Sweet Country From Wild Honey"

It is an achievement for any group to have an album issued and even more pleasing for Wild Honey, four talented musicians from Banbridge, Co. Down, to have issued 'Sweet Country' on the Country House label.

There are 12 tracks on this album, from

Rockabilly Rebel to Hickory Hollers Tramp and from Guitar Boogie Shuffle, to Angel July. The one original track included on the album is 'Standing At The Station' which was composed by Oliver Armstrong from Lisburn.

With sleeve notes by my old friend Gerry Donaghy, the album is well compiled, produced and arranged. My only question is why the ballad 'Mary From Dungloe' is featured on a country collection.

to boss Ian Kennedy. Radio Foyle celebrates its third anniversary this month. Ian now invites all country artists to send several copies of their new recordings to him at Radio Foyle, Rock Road, Londonderry.

What a turn out for the launching of K-tel's 20-track Larry Cunningham album 'Just For You'. Former ballroom king now Minister for Industry and Energy, Albert Reynolds was on hand to help K-tel's managing director Brendan Harvey launch the product. I hope it gets more attention than the Indians album received.

I repeat that I get a little sick with country bands, playing ultra pop. Managers please remember, country fans

support country bands for their country material. And pop fans would not be seen inside the doors of a venue advertising a country band, even if the band played 100% plus heavy metal, rock sounds. Please boys such bands fall between two stools....It was good to meet my friend Bill Ryan recently, former lead singer with the disbanded Buckshot. Bill would like to return to the cabaret scene and hopes to form his own backing trio.

Singer Mary Lou has issued some excellent singles of late, and I hope that her revival of the old Connie Francis hit 'Lipstick On Your Collar' will be a hit for her.

Slán Go Foill.



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WALLY WALLACE SOUTH WALES



My apology for some information regarding the country music content in the 'Maybe Next Week' TV series, printed in good faith, it proved to be incorrect, as the programme was recorded and transmitted during July.

The latest offering at The Bridgend Recreation Centre saw the first time visit as a unit into South Wales for the Yellowstone Picnic Band, this was a complete show, with the band performing two very good sets and allowing Slim Pickins (a member of the band) to perform his solo comedy spot. The Yellowstone Picnic Band are colourful on stage and in their programme they included something for everyone, from the old to the modern, I thoroughly enjoyed the show, and provided they get enough work they can only go from strength to strength.

Other first time visitors to South Wales, Mary Miller & Pennine Express captivated their audience, since I last saw this outfit they have parted company with their keyboard player, but this is more than compensated for by the current line up's ability. Mary Miller has a great voice and she puts a lot of feeling into the songs which she sings. When Pennine Express performed in their own right, Bill Cope takes lead vocal with the rest of the band providing very good harmony and the volume and balance was always first class.

On this short tour I saw this group perform at three different venues, each under a different set of conditions, so I can conclude by saying that Mary Miller & Pennine Express can hold their own amongst some of the best country bands in Britain....Incidentally more praise for this group has been passed to me from The Oak Stave at Risca, Milford Haven Petroleum Club, Swansea CMC.

A Charity C.M. show presented in conjunction with The Double 'C' CMC and Allen Promotions held at The Stardust Cabaret Club, Usk, Gwent, in aid of The South Atlantic Fund, did not gain quite as large an audience as had been hoped for.

The event was opened by The Highplainsmen, a worthy band to get things started, then Stuart Christian was backed by five musicians using the name of The Buskers, followed in complete contrast by a group of young girl Majorettes, Oxford based 'Chix' with a quite nice routine....'Country Jam' were next, this proved to be a combo made up of the Clovis band and The Daltons.....Kelvin Henderson as a solo artist, provided an ideal balance from the groups.

The Highplainsmen returned to the stage to provide backing for Jones & Jones, that's Royston and Ricky, their presentation was excellent and vocal harmony ideal. Chris Beckett and American Expression provided their usual polished performance, it seems Chris Beckett wanted to be involved in this show, as he is an ex crew member of HMS Hermes.

Expression were also a man short for this one, as their lead guitarist Gerry Madine was on his honeymoon, so congratulations are in order. The show eventually, after expenses were deducted raised around £400 for the relief fund.

The first of the four shows this month at the 'OK' CMC, Malpas Unionist Club, Newport, featured local outfit Haydon St. James and The Daltons, who gave a satisfying performance.

First time visitors to the club, Ann Marie & Drifter, (Swindon), had one of the youngest drummers I have ever seen working in a group, just 12 years old and he's very good, as were the rest of the group.

Then came Mary Miller & Pennine Express whom I've praised already. The final show was a double header that featured the extensive talents of Don Leather & Cindy, plus young Andy Morris.

The Fairso CMC, here in Cardiff, is still going through a lean patch audience wise. Dave Curtis was a guest artist and this was his first visit to the club, but he certainly made a lot of new friends, a great voice nice personality, again a top class soloist.

The following show featured Fargo, a new group her in South Wales, which has a young lady called Debbie fronting the outfit on vocals, with three musicians, lead guitar, bass and rhythm guitar. I feel the group has some way to go yet, if they are to make much impression. Whilst the Fairso's resident band Clovis, gave their usual first rate account of themselves.

I am now receiving regular reports from Peter Jones regarding the activities at The Railroad CMC., Martletwy, West Wales, a venue that operates fortnightly. An excellent evenings entertainment was provided by Keith Manifold together with The Rouchelles. Then it was a return visit by Ireland's Joe Hamilton & Chapperal, Joe and the boys are very popular in this area and swelled the audience to some 190 people.

The Dallas Country Band turned in a fine performance and a surprise guest in the audience was the Calgary cowboy, Gordie West.

Dave Bryan & Moonshine also treated the club to first class entertainment. The night, which featured Pinto, must have been a fantastic show, as I'm told the audience would not let them leave the stage.

When Gordie West entertained at The Carmarthen Wranglers CMC., to a fairly small, although enthusiastic audience, it highlighted that the club certainly needs all the support it can get, if only to compensate for the hours of hard work being put in to try to keep it going.

More aid for the South Atlantic fund came when H.A.B. Promotions recently put on a first class country music evening, and the proceeds of the raffle were given over together with a donation from H.A.B.

When I recently travelled to Milford Haven, I met up with a guy called Ray Kingston who apart from promoting country music in that area, also supplements most shows with his Sounds of Fidelity Country Disco, on which I was pleased to find the volume kept to a reasonable level.

RADIO NAME CHECKS

Swansea Sounds country music programme presenter.



Lloyd Coles requests that I mention to country venues in his area, who wish to gain a name check during the programme, "Get in touch". It's free publicity and that can't be bad, but note: as most programmes are now pre-recorded, get those details to him well in advance, it's up to you.

The latest info on the Swansea CMC is although apparently ticking over very nicely, it certainly needs quite a bit more support to ensure that it continues. It's worth noting by country fans in the area, this is a great club and you take the children. So there's no excuse's, are there?

Two new venues for country music have recently come to my notice, one in Cardiff on alternative Thursdays at The Dukes Hotel, that's in the centre of the city. The other meets on alternative Sundays at The Hall Inn, Usk, Gwent.....So check them out!

LOCAL BAND NEWS (RECORDS)

Jones & Jones have a new gig LP released entitled 'You & I Together', these boys are riding on a crest of a wave at the moment, and this release can only enhance their popularity.

Haydon St. James has also been recording his first LP at The Horseshoe Studios, and should be available by the time you read this.

Two top line international artists are lined up to appear at the new St. Davids Centre Concert Hall here in Cardiff; Glen Campbell and George Hamilton. People in South Wales have been moaning for so long that we never get any of the big names in Wales, well now is your chance to prove that you do want them to come and will support them, if you don't, it may be another 10 years before someone tries again.

INCOMING ACTS THIS MONTH INCLUDE.....

Jimmy Lawton, Sandi Hart & Levi are at The Bridgend Recreation Centre.....Mustang and John Hutch appear at The Double 'C' CMC.....Highplainsmen together with Dave Curtis are at the Village Hall Redwick, Gwent. There's two separate shows at The Anchor Hotel, Tintern, they feature Gordie West, then The Cliffsons.....The Duffy Brothers plus a top band (T.B.A.) at the Speedbirds Club, Nantgarw Road, Caerphilly. Also, don't miss Linda Cassady at the Congress Theatre, Cwmbran, with Dave Bryan & Moonshine.

Well that's it for another month, keep those little bits of information coming to: 21 Harris Avenue, Rumney, Cardiff. Tel: (0222) 795006.

Apologies to Country Thinking for misspelling Mariane last month, it's the track written by themselves and featured on their new EP. It is available from them at any of their gigs, this month they are at Leamington Spa, Melton Constables (Norfolk), Pine Mine, Norfolk and Winterton on Sea. Watch out for the groups Cherokee and Hustler, they visit the Northants CMC this month. This club meets at the Towester Football Ground Club rooms every other Saturday.

THE MK DIVIDED CMC...Milton Keynes bring in the popular group Six Dollar Bill this month, then on October 4th they have Kentucky County.

Helen West and her Sweet Country can be seen at the Pymore Cricket Club (nr Ely) on the 11th. Chatteris WMC, 18th. Willingham WMC 25th.

Country Shack have changed drummers. (out) - John McAlpine due to pressing outside commitments. (in) - Dave Adams, who has recently returned from Europe with Roxy Music, you can judge his talents this month at the Trent Park Golf club, 3rd, Colt 45 CMC, Felixstow, 11th. Wagon Wheel, Stevenage 17th, Freethorpe 18th.

The Marine Ballroom, Evesham are still holding their monthly country evenings which according to all reports received, are doing well, this month see's Mississippi Line appearing.

I was sorry to hear from the agency that Barrell Promotions has now ceased to trade, but they inform me that all existing contracts will be honoured.

Lockstock & Barrell, Ketterings own country duo are busy this month with visits to Royal Hotel, Ket: Dansthorpe Miners Welfare, Kingfisher, Corby: Danesholmes Centre, Corby: Buccchurch Hotel, Ket: Phoenix, Corby: Royal Hotel, Ket: and their 'alter group' line up. Desperate Dan's Country band are working the Silver Circle, Dunstable: Welfare, Corby and Beaston Club, Bedford. So they're busy, must be something to do with talent!

A reminder that next month (October) see's the Pontins Hemsby holiday village, Norfolk offer another of their very successful country style self catering holiday entertainment feasts.

A note that at the Willow Tree in Billing every Thursday you can see Smith & Western and at the Ranch House, Higham Ferriers, Barbary Coast can be seen working out on most Wednesdays.

There's another country evening being staged at the Forum Theatre, Hatfield this month, it features the Frank Jennings Syndicate plus Nick Carter & The Yellowstone Picnic band and heading the cast from the States is Rattlesnake Annie.

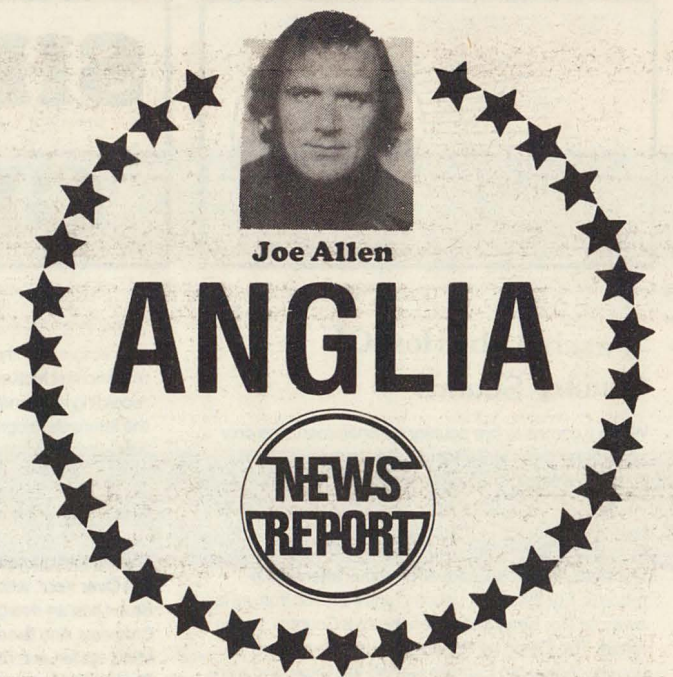
LOCAL ACTS ON RECORD

One of the best British LPs I've heard for a long time is the one just completed by Ann & Ray Brett, it was recorded at the Beck Studios, Wellingboro' and entitled 'Take A Walk In The Country'. All the material was written by Ray personally, except



for one number 'Love For The First Time', which was co-written with Barbary Coast pianist Barrie Fletcher.

The album takes a fresh look at country music, it's taken well over two years in the production, which I feel has paid off, it seems the theme is quality not quantity, only nine



numbers can be found pressed onto the vinyl, but everyone stands up in their own right. Their single released a couple of years ago is included but has been re-mixed and given a new lease of life, as Ray mentioned the sound they were trying to achieve has slightly changed as their target grew nearer completion.

Cost has been kept low at £3.50 plus 50 P&P, obtainable from Charlott Records, 83 High Street, Corby. Ann & Ray have already started making personal visits around the local stations, the first was Radio Northampton, when they were Gerald Maine's talk till ten guests recently. They can however be seen live at the Welfare club, Corby on 5th, Doddington WMC, 11th and Stardust, Corby 16th.

Milton Keynes own group Cuttin' Loose have just cut an EP which includes a self penned composition called 'Lifetime Everyday', copies are available from the band at gigs for the sum of £1.75 which also has a souvenir band photo that goes with it.

My acknowledgements go to Slim Albins, chairman of the Ipswich CMC for keeping me up to date with all the activities in his area, the club which started back in '65, is still going strong. This month sees Atlantis Country, Broken Spoke, Then Dave West & Cripple Creek, followed by Skee Laird & Cool Country.

A U.S. artist now familiar to UK audiences is Jimmy Lawton, on his current tour he's supported by Sandi Hart & Levi. They visit the region for several concerts including the Recreation Centre, Bridgend: Festival Morris Motors, Oxford: RAF Lakenheath: Vauxhall Motors, Luton: Waterend Barn, St. Albans: Seawick Holiday Lido, St Osyth, Essex.

NEW BANDS

A couple of new groups to this column now, the first is a four piece called Whiskey River. Its line up consists of Ken Pierce on steel: Jackie Pierce, bass: Dwight Thompson, vocal and rhythm: and Frank Palfry, drums and



vocal, I'm told their music's in the Waylon/Willie style, you can find out for yourself as they can be seen and heard at the Top Four Club at Mildenhall and then Mildenhall Speedway (2nd October).

The other act is the young group from Northants formed a couple of months

now calling themselves 'The Invaders', their basic style is more in the countryified rockabilly vein and line up consists of Keith Neil on vocals and upright bass: Nick Churcher, lead: Colin Morris, drums; and Just Jules on rhythm, this unit can now be seen fortnightly at the Victoria P/H Wellingboro', on Fridays, this group perform a vast amount of their own material preferring this to doing cover versions. (good luck to them).

COUNTRY EATIN' FOR CHARITY

For those of you who like to eat well and enjoy country music at the same time, then on the 10th of this month, there's 'Harvest Roast' at the Vicarage Farm, Melchbourne, Bedfordshire, all proceeds are being donated to the Guide Dogs for the Blind and your concert ticket entitles you also to have free beer, food, wine and music from The Karl Denver Trio, with support from 'Soft Touch'. Tickets and further info., on Riseley 317 or 238.

Since copy dates prevent sensible comment on the Peterborough Festival and rather than 'Crystal Ball' a review, I'll just hope that you all have a good time. (Fuller report next month).

One other country event I discovered while travelling around Norfolk last month is to be held at the South Rep., Village Hall on September 4th, it features Country Flavour, plus support.

That's it for September, all October (Anglia information) please nice and early to 385 Shelley Road, Wellingboro', Northants NN8 3EW or phone 0933 677352.

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by Ann Carmody

Highland Country

The excitement for which the Highland scene has been waiting, recently struck with a remarkable force in the shape of John Quinn and Mandate. John's sincere feeling for country music is projected well, either holding his audience spellbound with a monologue or rousing the spirits with exciting yodelling. This young man certainly has all the requirements to become one of the top names of this scene. So as one Quinn flies away, here is another ready to take his place. (not related).

"The man out front is as good as the band behind him" quotes John, in this case Mandate who besides being an excellent band also provides a liberal helping of entertaining humour....Ivan on rhythm and keyboards also provides some vocals (how's about a laugh Ivan!!) and although young Peter has only been playing bass for nine months his performance could lead one to believe it's been years, some good vocals from him too. When Bernie the youngest member picks up his lead guitar they become as one complete unit, some truly remarkable sounds. It takes only

one word to describe the drummer Paul - crazy!!! Yes John Quinn and Mandate are set to go far, if recognition of talent prevails and they are given the breaks.

Another treat for Flo Stevens fans in these parts was her appearance at a few clubs ably backed by Elgin group Gambler. Flo's personality and voice had her audiences with her from beginning to end of her performance. Her version of 'The Answer To Everything' really has to be heard to be believed.

When the Eddy Pride Show toured these parts he was well received by the punters. However Eddy did not get through to his audience until he launched into one of his brother Charley's more popular numbers, perhaps folks would not expect this from him if the name were not the same?

First time round for me to catch up with Buckboard who certainly lived up to their advanced reputation of being a non stop dance band, while many bands are trying to add an extra five

minutes onto their break. I'm told these boys don't even want a break - dedication!

Joe E Hamilton and High Chapperal have also recently toured these Highland roads, Joe as usual giving the fans what they wanted, be it country or not. Unfortunately High Chapperal's new line up despite new stage suits did not impress me musically or personality wise half as much as the line up we grew to know in these parts and up here it goes a long way if band members can find time to speak with the punters and club organisers.

When Jolene and Part Two graced our stages again, they produced their usual high class performance. This combo certainly do deserve the acclaim and awards they have received.

Looking forward to this months Highland country entertainment, you can enjoy Patsy Powell & Goodtimers, The Playboys and Saddletamps, who are amongst the acts appearing in these parts. The Inverness club stages a concert/dance in Eden Court Theatre on Friday 3rd Sept., on the bill are acts

Regional Review



The Playboys - who appear at the Inverness Club later this month.

which the punters have enjoyed on club nights over the past months, they are Gambler, Terry Nash, Flo Stevens and Colorado. Providing music for the dance to follow are Prairie Moon.

As transport was favourable I managed to make it to the Grantown-on-Spey, Cuminstoun and Elgin Country Clubs. So thanks for your hospitality Shona, Andy and Meg. My first hand impression is that they offer comfortable pleasant venues in which to enjoy the music. I also managed to make it to enjoy the five star hospitality venue at the Castlestytle in Tain. Joette

and Henry's welcome really has to be experienced to be believed, country music needs people like these. Even further afield I made it to the recently formed Blair Atholl club which is thriving healthy under the wing of Catherine Scrimgeour and yes the dance floor really is something else!!

The Nairn club has managed to procure alternative premises in the Royal Marine Hotel, all that is needed now is help from artists and punters to get the club back on its feet, so c'mon folks if country music means anything at all to you - help keep this club on the map.

KEEP COUNTRY MUSIC ALIVE

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My Information Is That:-

Manson Grant and the Dynamos back to a three piece again, with Jim Holliday having to disappear from the scene due to ill health, Davey Duff of Colorado has not been enjoying the best of health either recently. Here's hoping both soon return to good health.

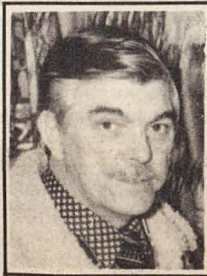
The Dynamos recently played at the London/Irish festival and as far as I know they are the first Scottish band to do so.

Well that's all the news that is news from the North of Scotland this time round, as usual, news, views or comments to 56 Kilmuir Road, Inverness or telephone Inv.. 221268.



SCOTLAND CALLIN

DAVE HENDRY



After ducking and dodging all those balls in the Tennis....Golf....Cricket....Soccer etc., it was a pleasure to sit back and watch some good ol' country entertainment via the BBC's Wembley transmission and STV's Hear Here progs., which featured Tammy Cline and Poacher plus Colorado and many others. Scottish Television with director Cliff Martin have shown a good deal of interest in country music lately and no longer can we down the company on not catering for country fans. I look forward to later shows which carry a fair amount of promise and promotion to the country scene.

CLUB SECRETARIES

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Following a very successful and I'm told tiring engagement at Calgary, Gordie West returned to these shores to complete many club gigs throughout Britain, including several festival appearances. Gordie - second only to Jolene with Part Two on the Country award winning trail in Scotland's clubs, will be making the journey north of the border in the near future subject to dates approval.

NODDY COUNTRY

Cumbernauld (known locally as Noddyland) comes up with some fine country shows held at Royal British and Cumbernauld C.D.C. Social Club. Reports have it the appearance of Glasgow based Carmel & Country Pride was the best attended with an audience of fans and not so country fans, at the C.D.C. club. Meanwhile at the 'Legion', Dallas Girls entertained a lively lot who showed their appreciation in no uncertain manner. Local lads John Smith Trio are engaged at regular intervals and can be said to put on a pretty useful session.

An interesting letter from Ballynure in Northern Ireland where the Pony Express Country Club meet at the Ballad Inn. Press officer Jackie McCartney tells me the club will be getting in touch with their namesake - Pony Express CMC., Edinburgh. Idea being to twin up and possibly arranged inter-club visits therefore creating and securing a new friendship with other mutual advantages....it's novel and sounds interesting.

Not the brand of country we know but entertaining nevertheless Danish combo Wonsta Awten came, saw and won a few hearts with their own brand of country at the Outlaw's CMC in Lanark. At the Clydesdale Hotel where prexy Don Cartwright has some top acts booked in for the next few months. Most recent act to make the grade at Lanark were Bonnyrigg combo Route 65. A very under-rated band indeed and on this showing there is no question the quartet will return west for many gigs. Tight harmony was a feature on the combined vocal numbers with appetizing solo's from the very friendly Maureen. Instrumentation?...very good all round and to quote one fan "...why haven't we had this band before now, I hope they're booked for a return...." unquote. Route 65 are on the way....watch out for them. Whilst the club in functioning reasonable well, prexy Cartwright is in a state of wonder as to what will happen when the proposed change of Clydesdale Hotel ownership transpires around October this year.

ON TOUR....

Kelly Howard & Canadian Club make their first country wide tour this month starting at Lanark's Outlaw's CMC., and ending the 12 gig run at Bonnyrigg's Shiloh CWC., between these dates are engagements at Aberdeen CWC....Elgin CWC....Peterhead CWC....Keith CWC....Premnay Hotel, Inch....Burns CWC....Tucson CMC. Howard recently made a 700 mile round trip for a one off gig at Inch.

Aberdeenshire, so the folks up in that area know what one heck of a night to expect on the return trip. Midlands agents Mike & Margaret Storey send in the Linda Cassidy Show which also features Dave Bryan & Moonshine for two dates at Aberdeen and Wayfarers CWC., - September 23rd. No September dates in Scotland for George Hamilton IV, although he will be appearing at Motherwell....Inverness....and Lochgelly, Fife, during October and a one nighter at Aberdeen's Beach Ballroom come November.

Many clubs are finding it tough going at the moment and are taking careful note of the financial situation. Southern based artists - on hearing of such a plight - called me, offering their services at fees LOWER than some of the local bands engaged by the 'stricken' clubs. Only ONE of the offers was accepted. Which brings about the question....are the clubs as bad off as they make out - or is there some other curious reason for refusal of these generous tokens of friendship? One such club tell me they can book a 'local' band for much less than the figures on offer from pro bands and artists, which I can assure you would barely meet the cost of fuel and overnight digs....I wonder what sort of entertainment the fans are dished out when offers like this are snubbed. Seems like a case of take what you get or stay away....and country fans are likely to accept the latter. Think about it folks.

FINALLY.....

Now that the summer season's almost over, perhaps club organisers will give a bit of thought to our mutual friends who had come north hoping to find country venues. As one couple told me 'Scottish country clubs seem to delight in the game of Hide Go Seek, we had to settle for social club country in the end, what a pity'.

That's it folks, from now on in it's up to you the members and committee to get rid of the 'Hide Go Seek' tag. Don't forget there's gold in them their tourists!

News etc., to: 121 Marmion Road, Greenfaulds, Cumbernauld G67 4AW or call 02367/35033.



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SOUTHERN STYLE

Ernie Sears



1st August deadline

Yet still the file looks awfully empty.....thank God for people like the publicity conscious Jed Ford who send me regular wads of material that herald the Peterborough Festival and Cuttin' Loose manager David Parker, who sent a copy of their new EP.

At least I can adhere to our newly appointed Sub-Editor Sharon Sproats' diplomatic hint to 'keep it short'.....infact, if I don't ramble on too much this month's column might set up some sort of a record for my shortest one in any magazine etc.

Oh yes, I did have one communication which I'd have sooner not read....the long-running Brighton CMC has acquired, so Neil Coppendale tells me, an actual closing date (December 17th) if 'attendances do not improve'....inspite of some superb shows at one of the south's leading venues.....plent of suggestions from interested people but it's 'bums on seats' that are required and with the club's eleventh anniversary show coming up in September that features (George Moody & Country Squires, Emerald, John Hutch, Bill Hurren and Yvonne & Norman Champion), it's hard to understand the sad situation which has been prevalent for the last nine or ten months.

With following shows of the stature of the Lazy Acre Road Show, Frank Jennings Show and that lovely Patsy Powell & Goodtimers one just shakes the head in disbelief. 'Let us pray'!

We might do worse than ditto for our own local Wildwood South CMC.....not so much because of the poor crowds which have improved slightly but for the cancellation of certain guest bands and shows.....notably those charmers Indigo Lady who opted out of their August 7th gig, too late, far too late, to get in the column.....seems their 'tour' just wasn't pulling in sufficient gigs to make it all worthwhile.

(Feverishly shuffling through the files, trying to find some good news, I locate a leaflet which says 'Wake Up to Herbal Teas' (now how the hell did that get in there?) and a letter from my bank manager which is quite definitely not 'good news'!)

A note from Two Countries Radio (2CR) and it's country offering spot via co-presenters Colin Fearnhead and Rosslyn Ray tell me that local songwriter and club promoter Barry Lowe has three songs accepted by America's June Kenny for future exposure....Barry used to run the Fiddlers Reach CMC at the nice Lyndhurst Park Hotel in our local New Forest town of that name.

A note and a card from Maurice Bowers turns up.....reminds me that I owe the guy a big vote of thanks for the many lifts home that he's given me from local venues and he deserves a free plug for his photography business....an expert at 'location' shots, if you're looking for current publicity, Maurice lives at III Leominster Road, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth and knows his stuff!

Trying to cheer myself up I am prompted by a Duffy Brothers photo to say many thanks to Leon and Ray for a splendid billtopping spot on a recent charity show in aid of the Falklands Dependants Fund at a local social club.....brilliant comedy and country from a couple of guys I'd not seen for far too long, plus some fine country (and rockabilly!) from little Ellie Scott and her band (liked that stage outfit!) backed by Sussex artist Tony Falcon who pleased a vast crowd, all artists appearing at extremely low fees....Thanks!

More cheerful news (how do I do it?) hails from the Silver Dollar Club at The Maltings Farnham who report a super night from Milton Keynes band Cuttin' Loose.....however the bigger crowd didn't postpone the two month summer closure and the next date there is September 25th with a return of the popular Harry T. & Tennessee Mash, followed by a 'bluegrass country night' with one of the best in the business, Del Robinson Rocky Island Boys with caller Nick Law, then Tangie County (subject to confirmation) in November, Hank Dalton Country Band, December, and then it's into 1983 with a cautious once a month club night?

Mention of Cuttin' Loose reminds me of that EP....it's a nice one, has a selfwritten opener on one side with an unusual spoken intro 'When I Leave This World Behind', plus a version of 'Frankie & Johnny' that took me back to the 'live now pay later' sixties and jazz artist George Melly....this version is a 'rockier' and then some!....with the standard 'Door Is Always Open' and some nice smooth vocals plus 'That's The Way The World Goes Round' to conclude. Their fans will like it, but it doesn't come up to their 'live' performances....

More publicity through the door from the very enterprising Pastafont (Music) people who are really going to town on their 'star' Little Ginny... 'Buy two records' her publicity advises us....Gawd, some of us can hardly afford the bus fare to borrow one! A hardly understandable

scribbled footnote tells me that the lady's album is reviewed in a recent 'Mayfair' girlie mag....I sneaked a look in my local shop much to the apparent disgust of two old ladies behind me!....and admit to being hardly able to concentrate on the favourable review!

Mary Arnold of the Oxford Western Society (this was chopped out of last month's issue), runs a super Red Indian presentation spectacular for displays etc....I enjoyed their stint at the Wildwood CMC....very authentic and very colourful....give me a ring, I can put you in touch.

Don't forget the 'biggie' at Worthing during the weekend of September 17/18/19....hope to see you there on at least one of the days....try to support all the hard work that's gone into this one. (Covered elsewhere this month).

TOO LATE

The St. Ives (Cornwall) Country Fair, thanks to Cally Conran (is 'Cally' a nickname?) who sent full details of the event a little late for the 30th August date but thanks anyway.

The lady also gives a big boost to Jeff Jefferson who is another solo artist who can, however, travel with his own band if required....

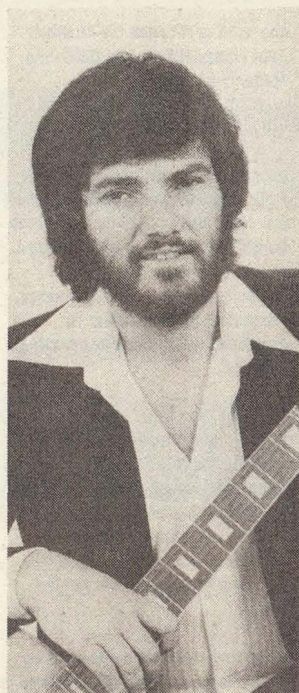
Nashville's Diamond Talent organisation sends a nice new single by one of those attractive and talented American ladies who visit us from time to time....Linda Cassidy....

That nice Surrey based band Chester sent me some info., on their newish change in personnel....they've a girl singer added....and 'twas only the other day when I was wondering what they were up to! Any photos?

A 'musicians' band, that one....not always appreciated by country fans....hence a lack of the right kind of gigs here in the south.

Ringwood CMC (Hants/Dorset Border) has a nice looking September gig list....Kansas Country (a good 'southern' band), Lazyacre Roadshow (super!) and Moonshine (outsanding) followed by Trampus on consecutive Tuesdays.

Odds and ends from here and there tell me that singer/guitarist Dave



Curtis who hails from the Tony Best area (!) is coming south in the month of December and has a few dates free....anyone wanting a fine support....or even an 'all evening' solo act....could do worse....he comes highly recommended.

Changes in Jeannie Sinclair's Stateside band haven't affected the good reputation they have earned some fine reaction from various southern clubs recently where they've appeared....apologies for the thunderstorm at Crawley....'twasn't in my contract!

POSTSCRIPT:-

Sure enough, the day following our deadline two club programmes

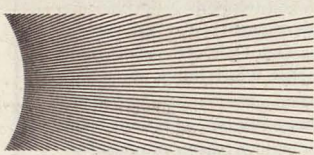
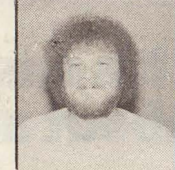
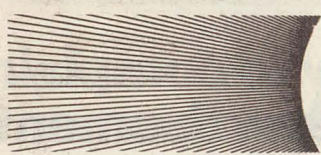
arrived! Chichester CMC's newsy one itemises The Muskrats for September, although no mention of the actual venue therein....Then it's Sante Fè at St. Georges Hall, Whyke, other news from Tony Bleach is that the clubs Grovesnor Rooms venue at Bognor will run until the end of August but needs more people....a 'questionnaire' is included this time, aimed, presumably, at finding out why attendance's are falling!

Wildwood South's Southampton based club has Moonshine (from Yorkshire), Five Cents (London), Sid's Country Disco (local) and the Linda Cassidy Show on the September, Saturdays....followed by Leicester's, Rouchelles with (and I quote), a 'very sexy looking lady in their line-up' 2nd October....Then Salt Lake City, Tom Jennings Nashville Session Band....then a 'T.B.A.'....concludes October with Cherokee from Kent on a repeat booking....not sure if it's a wise move but the club is promoting a country night with Jefferson County plus Sid's Country Disco, Thursday September 9th at Braishfield Club near Romsey....others to follow if successful....might this not affect the parent club's Saturdays, not too far away geographically? Or, conversely, if the Braishfield Club members 'are mad about' country music, as I've been told why don't they attend the Wildwood South Club in numbers? Again, it's a 'gamble' that might have repercussions....but good luck!

The Newsletter also contains some dire threats of 'fortnightly, monthly, or complete closure' unless the situation improves. So go along and give 'em your support.

Well, well....that's it for now....keep up the communication to 12 Westridge Road, Portsmouth, Southampton, Hants and any 'phone calls (whatever their nature!) to 0703 550050....and Do Please Communicate! Although I shall be 'about' more in August doesn't mean you can stop sending me news and views! And remember....'Be careful out there'!

WEST COUNTRY



John Autton

After the scathing remarks that opened last months column -- for which I make no apologies -- hey presto!, two days after publication deadline, I recieved a letter from Wilf Speller, informing me of some of the country music activities that take place in the Gloucester area.

Now I'm the first to say that country music does receive an incredible amount of exposure in that particularly lovely part of the country. Infact, country music can be enjoyed by the good people of Gloucester on no less than six days of the week, although I don't have the addresses of all the venues, here's where it all happens:

SUNDAYS: Bowden Hall Hotel, Upton St. Leonards, Gloucester.
MONDAYS: Location not given.
TUESDAYS: Roundabout CMC., Woodrow Way, Gloucester.
THURSDAYS: Maureen's CMC., The Catholic Centre, Cheltenham, Gloucs.
FRIDAYS: Maureen's - address as before.
ALTERNATE SATURDAYS: Wheelwrights/St. Peters CMC., St. Oswalds Road, Gloucester.

All this live music and Wilf Speller's country music programme 'Mainly Country', on Severn Sound every Saturday between 7 & 9pm all adds up to a very healthy state of affairs for country music in Gloucester.

Now I look forward to hearing reports from some of these venues on a regular basis, and indeed if I haven't been banned from ever entering the county of Gloucestershire, I will attempt to visit some of these venues in the not too distant future.

Newton Abbot's Lonesome Trail CMC., meets every Tuesday at The Plough and Harrow, Shaldon Road and continues to attract healthy audiences most weeks. On one of my occasional visits to this club, I had the pleasure of seeing for the first time, a super band from Dorset who rejoice under the name of 'Okie'. These are a five piece outfit, whose lineup features, Hamish Maxwell, lead vocals; Steve Parker, bass; Dave Swaffield, drums; Tony Carbis, lead guitar/vocals; and Bruce Willoughby, lead guitar/mandolin/vocals.

Okie are one of those rare bands that feature an intelligent combination of the more progressive country (right up my street), with that of some of the good country standards, and are equally good to dance to, as well as listen to, a formula that, in my opinion, works very well for audience and band alike.

Midlands based 'Overland Express' have been in the west country just recently and after a hectic dash from downtown Torquay, I managed to catch most of their show at The Lonesome Trail. As it happened, the mad rush was very well worth the effort, as Overland Express turned in an excellent performance, although I wished at times that their lead guitarist could have showed a little more enthusiasm for the music he was playing.

Mention of the fact that I was in Torquay, brings me to my next two points.

The first of which concerns Torbay Hospital Radio and in particular the country music programme, 'My Kinda Country', presented every Tuesday from 9 to 10pm., by Andy Jones. The night that Overland Express were appearing at The Lonesome Trail Andy was interrogating yours truly about my dark and devious past.

present and indeed future in country broadcasting and he played some very good music as well!! So make a note if you have friends or relatives ever in Torbay Hospital, why not drop a line to Andy Jones, c/o Torbay Hospital, and I'm sure he will be only too pleased to play a country record for them.

The other thing that's tied up in a way with Torbay, is it's the home of the Dick Edwards Duo, who have been in the recording studios recently. The 'four tracked EP' (ROX 035EP) is an excellent production, so I wish Dick & Bruce every success with it. Appearing at no less than eight Pontins Holiday Centres here in the south west, they are according to Dick, when I spoke to him on the 'phone recently, enjoying every minute of it

Cornwall:

Things have been moving pretty slowly, audience wise at The Lordswaste Country Club at Bolventor near Bodmin. In the words of co-organiser Jean Mills, "The bands that have appeared have all done an excellent job and have been well received by those who have attended -- but it's the same old story -- good music, but not enough people to appreciate it". Who knows, perhaps now that the holiday season has come and gone The Lordswaste Country Club will have had an increase in it's fortunes, but for anyone passing through with an interest in country music, then I suggest that you give Jean Mills a call on Bodmin 3071.

Devon

The Double 'H' CMC., held every Wednesday at Dunchideock's Lord Haldon Hotel, continues to tick over very nicely with steady audience numbers most weeks, the only exception to this was a few weeks ago when Ben Lee Rivers and Exeter's Country Jays appeared. Having seen Ben Lee Rivers on previous occasions, I sometimes feel that it would be better for him and his audiences if he concentrated more of his efforts on singing a few more songs. I felt that The Country Jays, John Atkins, wife Julie and Ron Joyce, created a very nice impression even if the choice of music was a little predictable.

Tumbleweed Connection are a fairly new band from Exeter who certainly created a good impression on their first visit (as one unit) to The Double 'H'. Mick Cartwright, lead vocals/rhythm guitar: Rick Cook,

bass: Arthur Cook, vocals/lead guitar and Keith Gaiter, drums/vocals. Four talented musicians who have obviously put in an awful lot of very hard work to mould themselves into a very workmanlike outfit. Infact they have all given up that elusive day job in order to turn fully professional, so I for one wish them all the luck in the world, at this time they are going to need it....

Longtime Double 'H' favourites, 'Stringband', attracted a good sized audience on their latest visit with a performance that contained all the ingredient that the public have come to expect from them. A very welcome special guest on this show, was big Tony Best along with his drummer George Foster, all of which added up to one of the best nights entertainment I've seen in this area in quite some time. Believe it or not, Besty is trying to lose some weight and seriously the results are quite noticeable and personally I hope he doesn't lose too much, 'cos of his image suffering.

Paignton Round Table organised a 'Country Music Shindig' held at Queens Park Cricket Ground, that saw Frank Jennings & The Syndicate making a very welcome excursion to this part of the world and with Stringband, giving the large audience a great set. It was also very nice to see a healthy number of country music fans in the audience, combined with a good many holiday makers.

I bumped into the Brixham based Kathie Jay & Bandana Country a few weeks back and I am happy to report that they are sounding better than ever now they have secured the services of bass guitarist Roger Skelsey and steelie, Ray Hill.

Advance News:

The new season of shows, promoted by Vernon Hutchings at The New Hall, Tiverton starts in September Providing the entertainment for this show: the lovely Linda Cassidy and Dave Bryan & Moonshine.

Well that's it for this month, by the time this goes to press, I will have moved house. At the present, because of the fact that I'm moving into a brand new house, on a brand new estate, as anyone that has made a similar move will know, the last thing the developers provide you with, is a name for the street. I am no exception to this. But written correspondence will reach me at DevonAir Radio 35/37 St. Davids Hill, Exeter EX4 4DA, my own telephone number remains the same (0392) 75563.

EAST Midlands

COUNTRY MUSIC



Keith Newton

IT IS confidently estimated, by those who know about these things, that there are some 4,000,000 people in the United Kingdom who, if pressed, would state a preference for country as their first choice in music

Just think of it—FOUR MILLION—only slightly less than the number of people who purchase Britain's leading daily newspaper, and they don't boob—with page 3 as a major incentive! FOUR MILLION—enough to fill Wembley Stadium forty times over, or Wembley Arena 266 times, or Peterborough's massive supertent 800 times. FOUR MILLION—enough people, if laid end to end, to reach from here to Nashville, always provided that some of them could walk on water—and I suspect that we could all name a few who think they can!!

Doesn't it give you an inner glow to think that you are a member of the huge movement that exists within these shores? Don't you feel proud that you sir, and you madam, are marching in the vanguard of this stupendous mass of fellow devotees of the music you love?

Isn't it comforting to know that, far from being the odd, out-of-step freak that many of your acquaintances believe you to be, for embracing a musical taste that, in their minds, brands you as a fantasy cowboy at best, or a hopeless nut case at worst, instead you belong to a strong vibrant section of the community—one of the FABULOUS FOUR MILLION?

But wait a minute . . . do I see doubt beginning to etch itself across your features? Is it just possible that you remain unconvinced of the existence of the FOUR MILLION? Then take heart for, in that also, you are not alone!

The compilers of statistics have, from the very dawn of time, been viewed with a justified degree of scepticism. Their methods of sampling may come up with theoretical figures which translate into some healthy appearing totals. But just ask, with these sorts of figures—How come we cannot get a small percentage of the gigantic force together in any one place at one time?

Ask your average club promoter—He would be rejoicing if he could manage to get 400 let alone 4 million, where his attendances are probably slanted more towards 40 if the truth is known.

Ask the leading record companies—whose sales figures for country product seems to have all but convinced them that it isn't worth releasing albums in Britain any more.

Ask the ex-Commercial Manager of Lincoln City FC—who joined the ranks of the unemployed, because less than 250 of us attended his ambitious two-day festival.

Ask the publishers of specialist country music mags and newspapers—whose circulations lag behind the equivalent rock and pop newspapers. With 4,000,000 enthusiasts we ought to be outselling them!

Ask the former members of our sadly-missed top pro-bands—they are no longer in business, and we

are all deprived as a result. And all because of the lack of interest displayed by the alleged FOUR MILLION!

You could ask Jed Ford—but I'd advise against it—you might not like the answer!! The Peterborough Festival director spent some £100 on postage, apart from the time and trouble of writing, to invite over 600 club secretaries to meet him at Folksworth.

Part of his letter ran:

" . . . The suggestion is that we give you, as the spokesman for your own club, the opportunity to meet with us before the festival actually takes place to discuss all aspects of it. You will have the opportunity to put your views and make any complaints or suggestions you may have. We would also like to know what the fans and yourselves are thinking concerning the future of Peterborough . . . The festival's future depends to a large extent on you and the amount of support you are prepared to give. There are a number of points I would welcome being able to discuss with you and I'm sure there are a similar number of ideas you would like to discuss with us . . . "

Of the 600+ who got the letter . . . just three people took the time to phone . . . AND ONLY ONE CLUB ACTUALLY ATTENDED THE MEETING—Anne & Terry Slack of the A1 CMC at Matlock Bath. Which means that just 0.00005% of that 4,000,000 cared enough to be represented—sorry for the rest of you, your views were never heard!—What a reflection on the present state of the scene!

On the brighter side, it must mean that the other 3,999,998 are completely satisfied and that should spare us from the moaners, groaners and contributors to the Letters Page whose (less than) crisp comments we can now take with a pinch of salt! Friends you had your chance and blew it!

Can I now in turn invite your co-operation in what will prove to be a historic piece of scientific research. CMRU IS GOING TO TEST THE EXISTENCE OF THE FOUR MILLION.

To assist in this thought-provoking experiment, simply write your name, address and phone number on the back of a £5 note and send it to me at the address at the foot of this column.

If there are indeed 4,000,000 country fans I will submit my findings in time for the next issue from the deck of my newly acquired yacht moored beside my villa in the South of France.

If, as I suspect, this does not prove to be the case, and in fact there is nobody out there—I'll be back talking to myself here, as usual, next month.

● Meanwhile back at the patch:

WRANGLE'S Festival attracted a slightly less number of patrons than in previous years, but still represented one of the best value-for-money days on offer in the country. Their third-in-a-row annual event presented the zany humorous talents of SHAG CONNOR'S CARROT CRUNCHERS, the outstandingly timbréd vocal range of VINCE CLAYTON with PAT & ROGER JOHNS, the eye, and ear catching excellence of HICKORY LAKE, the enthusiasm-whipping performances of MARY T ROSE & THE HOLLYBROOKS and the crowd-pleasing segments from MIDNIGHT FLYER. Fans and artists alike are unanimous in their praise of the arrangements and hospitality—neither could be faulted. And it only needs 0.025% attendance from that 4 million to be an even bigger success next time around.

● THE area's newest venue opened with a series of mishaps that might just have bowled over people made of less sterner stuff than popular husband and wife team MILES & BRIDGET. Despite the problems their promotion at the Chequers Inn at Measham proved a success with the patrons at the end of the day, mainly due to their highly individual efforts. They were supported by the BUS BROWN COUNTRY BAND who on this performance provided some highly unusual variations on country's themes. Teething troubles apart, the Chequers is a delightful spot and deserves success. Go along next time and see for yourself!

● A CONTRASTING performance came from BUS BROWN & REDNECK augmented by the presence of Maurice Hipkiss on steel and fiddle as they set the entertaining opening scene on the third night of the three-evening presentation of country music at Birmingham's famed Night Out. The nite spot's venture in conjunction with BRMB Radio was a huge success, introducing a fair section of the large attendance to the delights of country à la ROXON ROADSHOW and ROSE MARIE who topped the bill in an ideal setting for their styles

● A GOOD cause and a top quality bill failed to dent the apathy that would have ensured a better donation going to the South Atlantic Appeal Fund from the A1 CMC at the Matlock Bath Pavilion. Superb performances and the giving of their services, however, must draw approval to KEN HARRIS & THE PLAYBOYS, HAMILTON'S POWER and GRAHAM BROUGHTON not forgetting some sweet sponsorship from Thornton's Chocolates Ltd.

● CHALK up another success on the Midland's circuit for ROGER HUMPHRIES BAND, this time for the benefit of the Leicester CMC members and guests at their popular mid-weekly get together in the atmospheric surroundings of the Jesters Lounge of the Braunstone Hotel.

● PLEASED, very pleased, to be able to write that the reports of the break up of the WHITE RIVER BAND are somewhat exaggerated. Pete Brazil has left the band, but is being replaced by Keith Buck formerly with the ROUCHELLES.

● THE City Council's biggie "Leicester Country '82" at the De Montford Halls proved to be the financial disaster forecast in this column last month.

Despite a bill featuring a whole host of the UK's finest, the event only attracted a crowd of just over a hundred to the vast venue. But then how many people even knew it was on? Without publicity you have no chance—when, oh when, will they ever learn?

DIARY DATES

The well established Great Hale Festival continues at the Village Hall on October 15 & 16 with appearances from the Duffy Brothers, Ricki Sylva and West Virginia on Friday and Kelvin Henderson, Miles & Bridget, Freightline Country and West Virginia on Saturday. Tickets come at £3 per night or £5 combined—ring Den Humberstone (Sleaford 60541 or 60612).

DRIVE IN COUNTRY

● As far as I am aware the first ever country music "Drive In" is set for Upton Fields Farm, Oakerthorpe, Nr. Alfreton in Derbyshire on Sept. 18. It features Hickory Lake, Homestead Duo, Mal Carson Trucking Company and J R Taylor. With tickets at £1.75 on the day or 25p cheaper before children are admitted at 50p.

CHARITY NIGHTS

● Starring the Ryman Country Band, Russ Carlton and John Carlton with Pat and Roger Johns, the latest Charity Show in aid of the Haemophilia Society will be held at the Lincoln County Hospital Recreation Hall on Friday, Sept 10. Ticket information on Welton 62391.

● A charity performance in aid of Maureen James, hospitalised recently, is sure of a big response from all her friends and artists who have appeared at the Log Cabin CMC at Mastin Moor where she is secretary. The event is at the Anchor Inn at Clowne (home of the Rocky Top CMC) and artists set to appear at the time of going to press include Springfield and Lorraine but I am sure the list will be growing even as you read these words. Further information is available from Geoff James, (Chesterfield 811159) or Barry Smalley (812460).

CLUB CALL

● The September club scene lines up like this:—**WEEKLY—Erewash Valley CMC**, Horse & Jockey, Stapleford; Neilson Brothers; TBA; Tim Rogers; Freightline Country Band. **Leicester CMC**: Expression; Paradox (Bar-b-que to be held at the British Shoe Corporation Club); Cuttin' Loose; Wells Fargo (Charity night in aid of Foster Care); Springfield; Beretta. **Rocky Top CMC**, Clowne: Dealers' Choice; Tony Andrews & Raincheck; Pearsons; Miles & Bridget; **Nottinghamshire CMC**, Hucknall: Bob McKinlay & Dixie Fried; Expression; Warren Reeves & Clarksburg Express; Mustang. **Golden West CMC**, Fenton: Vince Clayton with Pat & Roger Johns; Tony Dallas & Katie; Pete Young Duo; Barry Richards. **Lone Ranger CMC** (Formerly Fox & Goose CMC) now at Whitwick: Bryans; Bobby & Late Show; Mary Miller & Pennine Express; TBA. **Log Cabin CMC**, Mastin Moor: Pete Jones Trio; Ann & Ray Brett; Ryman Country Band; Cliffons Duo. **Cades County CMC**, Shireoaks: Jack Grace; Rocktop Trio; John Aston Duo; Bob McKinlay & Dixie Fried (8th Anniversary Show). **Countryman CMC**, Newtown, Nr Longnor: Wells Fargo with Keith Goslin; Natchez Trace; Cotton Gin; West Virginia with Barry Ford.

FORTNIGHTLY—Burton-on-Trent C&W Club: Free Spirit; Paradox. **THREE-WEEKLY—Renegades CMC**, Wirksworth: High Plains Drifter with Gordie West (Awards Show); Cuttin' Loose with Shane Peters.

MONTHLY—EMEB Club, Nottingham: Nick Carter & The Yellowstone Picnic Band. **Thomas Estley Community College**, Broughton Astley: Suffolk Punch. **Charon Bar 'C' CMC**, Hulland Ward: Bandanna. **Wrangle CMC**: Jimmy Lawton with Sandi Hart & Levi. **Cat & Fiddle**, Kirk Hulam: Tony Dallas & Katie. **Gedling MW**: Barbary Coast with Chuck Fowler Band. **A1 CMC**, Matlock Bath Pavilion: Jimmy Lawton, Sandi Hart & Levi and Graham Broughton. **Drakelow Power Station Social Club**: Patsy Powell & The Goodtimes. **Ranch Hands CMC**, Underwood: West Virginia. **Midland CMC**, Peakdale, Nr. Buxton: Mel Hague. **Heckington Village Hall**: Bob Newman/Carol Gordon Band with Lee Denver. **Bar 'H' CMC**, Sutterton: Tony Goodacre. **Staythorpe Club**, Newark: (Oct. 1) Train 45 with Big Pete Young.

● **DON'T** forget, entries to the research project, or if you have some information that you think might improve mine or the world's knowledge, send it along to me c/o Trident Midland Newspapers, Bridge Road, Coalville, Leicester LE6 2QP or ring Coalville 36636 (office) or Kegworth 3224 (evenings)

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Hello again. Lately I've been kept busy attending quite a large amount of concerts and dances as well as sampling a vast amount of new product. So let's launch in straight away with some of the highlights. Firstly I managed to catch Carl Gibson twice - at the Kingsdown School, Swindon and the Grosvenor Rooms in London. I reckon his overall presence on stage is quite brilliant and his vocal performance is dynamic to say the least. OK, he uses an echo facility to thicken the sound, but you cannot take it away from him that he hits those notes spot-on and creates such a good atmosphere wherever he plays. I also managed to catch his 30-minute BBC TV show for BBC Wales a few months ago and it would be nice to see that networked across Britain. I look forward to his new single 'Endless Dreamer' which is being promoted by the same company who were behind the infamous 'Birdie Song'.

New band based from the Midlands. 'Cargo', impressed me with their presentation of country music. I

caught up with them at Evesham in one of their first gigs together, and musically they were quite competent, lead by fiddle/steel/mandolin player Selwyn Read (formerly with the Worcestershire 'Shilo .'). I felt if anything that their material was more geared to a listening audience: the dance floor was used very rarely throughout the evening in comparison with past bands at the Marine Ballroom: but they gave a good evening and I shall look forward to seeing them in front of a more intimate audience in the future.

Congratulations to Ursula Gavin of Basingstoke and Mr H. Tucker of Oxford who both tied in my recent competition on Radio Oxford to identify 40 song titles and artists from segments of country songs. Both got 88% and both win free holidays for up to 6 people at Pontins Hemsby country week in October. When a tie was announced, Pontins had no hesitation in putting up an extra holiday worth nearly £100 to accommodate the joint first result. They also dished out nearly £4,000 in free vouchers to all 156 entrants.

On to Septembers club news then and perhaps the biggest event (providing it keeps dry) will be the open air festival at Morris Motors Sports Ground in Cowley, Oxford. It features Jimmy Lawton, Rattlesnake Annie, Sandi Hart & Levi, Expression, Barbary Coast and Kelvin Henderson so it is certainly an international line-up and I wish Terry and Ann Moss, the organisers the greatest success with this venture. It's always a gamble to put on something in the open air, so I hope all goes well in this department!

Seven Sound presenter Wilf Speller has now moved his programme from Wednesday nights to Saturday nights between 7 and 9pm on 388 metres Medium Wave.



Kelvin Henderson

Tony Croxford of the Colt 45 CMC is showing some initiative by circulating all the clubs in the area with their selected dates for 1983 to try and avoid clashes which does no good for anyone. Another club trying to avoid any clashes is the brand new club to be started in Bicester on September 10th.

Co-operation

Bicester CMC (Bicester's first country club) is purposely not running on September 26th so as to avoid any clash with the Colt 45 club and in return the Colt 45 club are planning to support the opening night at Bicester Ex-Services Clubs. Nice to see some good sense which can only be for the better.



SOUTH MIDLAND REPORT

Stuart Cameron

Frank Jennings Syndicate do the honours for Bicester's first night and then they will run fortnightly as from October. For further details of this new club you can ring Mick O'Sullivan on (08692) 41305.

Bands are always relying on clubs to give them work, so it was nice to hear of some acts turning round and giving something back to the clubs recently. With the Oakridge CMC in Basingstoke, in its eighth year of running, rapidly losing out on poor attendances, Vision, Sandie De Lane and the Chris Dale Band gave their services free in a special concert at the Brighton Hill Centre. With the help of many generous donations of money and raffle prizes, nearly £250 was raised to help boost the club funds a little.

Brief Details Of Other Dates:-

- **ABINGDON CMC** (Preston Rd, Comm. Centre, Abingdon): Mississippi Line
- **BANBURY CMC** (Banbury Utd F.C.): Country music every Sunday night.
- **BIG K CMC** (Highworth Recreation Centre): New Dorne Valley.
- **CARTERTON CMC** (Social Centre, Carterton): Last Friday of the month.
- **COLT 45 CMC** (Osberton Radiators Club, Oxford): Ellie Scott & Blazing Saddles

● **COTSWOLD C&W PROMOTIONS** (Jentyl Gardner Hotel, Tetbury): Maria O'Brien and Flicka.

● **COTSWOLD VALLEY CMC** (Milton-under-Wychwood Village Hall): Dorne Valley.

● **COUNTRY WAY CMC** (Bossard Hall, Leighton Buzzard): Warren Reeves.

● **END OF THE TRAIL CMC** (Farmers Arms, Kempsey): Bob McKinlay (5th anniversary show): Hamilton's Power.

● **HIGH CHAPPARAL CMC** (Pressed Steel Fisher Club, Oxford): Hobo, Tom Jennings Band and Bob Howard, Mississippi Line.

● **KINGS ARMS CMC** (Kings Arms, Woodstock): Dave Sterling, Karen, Dave Surman, Billy Evans.

● **MARINE BALLROOM** (Evesham): Mississippi Line plus Country Disco.

● **SILVER DOLLAR CMC** (Kingsdown School, Swindon): Expression & Mike Ryder.

● **WEST WAY CMC** (Witney Town FC): Every Sunday night.

● **WHITE HORSE CMC** (Burbage Village Hall): Barn Dance at Totteridge Farm, Tony Goodacre and Denver Spur.

That just about winds things up for this month. If you have any information for inclusion in the column then please contact me on (0295) 710815 or at Sunnyside, Queen Street, Middleton Cheney, Near Banbury, Oxfordshire.

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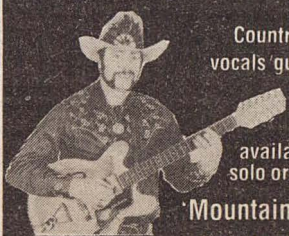
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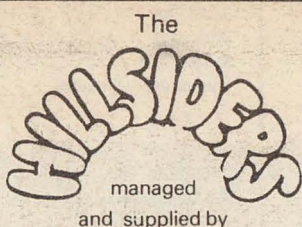
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Rainham, Essex
(Every Thursday)

2 Jenny Spellar & Spellbound
9 'Obson's Choice
16 Yorkie
23 Renegade
30 Drew Taylor & Drew's Brew

TRIPLE 'C' C&W Club
Perrys
Evendons Lane
Wokingham, Berks
(Weekly Thursday)

2 Free Spirit
9 Bob Howard &
Southern Roots
16 Bob Newman's Country Band
23 Clovis Country Band
30 Aubrey Lovejoy Country Band

WAYFARERS C&W CLUB
WAYFARERS INN
MARKINCH

2 Davis Country
9 Belle Murray & Random
12 Manson Grant & Dynamos
16 Tucson Country Music
23 Linda Cassidy Show
Dave Bryan & Moonshine
30 Jim Foster & band

LAZYACRE CMC
Lord Hill Hotel
Shrewsbury
(Fortnightly)

13 Cotton Gin
John Aston
Tony Best
27 Yellowstone Picnic Band
Marlene Powell
Tony Best

HIGH LANE CMC
High Lane Cons. Club
Buxton Road
High Lane
Stockport
Cheshire
(Weekly Saturday)

4 Yellowstone Picnic Band
11 Linda Cassidy (U.S.A.)
plus Dave Bryan & Moonshine at
St. Christophers Social Club,
Barrack Hill, Romiley, Stockport
Enq. 061 449 9495
18 Diablo
25 Duffy Brothers
Pete Cowap

INVERNESS C&W CLUB
Ailsa Suite
Inverness Ice Rink

7 T.B.A.
14 Patsy Powell & Goodtimers
21 Playboys
28 Saddletramps

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(concert)

3 Gambler
Terry Nash
Flo Stevens
Colorado
Prairie Moon

EVESHAM C&W CLUB
Marine Ballroom
Bridge Street
Evesham, Worcs

18 Mississippi Line

COLCHESTER CMC
Woods Leisure Centre
Braiswick
Colchester
Essex
(1st & 3rd Thursdays)

2 San Diego
16 Bob Bramley &
California Sunset

A1 CMC
Pavilion, Matlock Bath
Derby
enq: 077 385 3168
(Monthly)

12 Jimmy Lawton
Sandi Hart & Levi
Graham Broughton

IPSWICH C&W CLUB
Bridge Ward Cons. Club
Austin Street,
Ipswich, Suffolk

8 Atlantic Country
15 Broken Spoke
22 Dave West & Cripple Creek
29 Skee Laird & Cool Country

BUFFALO CMC
Blacksmiths Arms
Thornwood Common
Epping, Essex
(Weekly Monday)

6 California Sunset
13 George Moody
20 Kentucky County
27 The Rouchelles

RIVERSIDE CMC
Hertford Town F.C.
West Street
Hertford
(Weekly Tuesday)

7 American Expression
14 California Sunset
21 Patsy Powell & Goodtimers
28 Big Wheels

COBDEN'S PLACE
Wellington Street
Stockport
(Fridays 9pm)

3 Mustang
10 Preston Conway Trio
17 Collier Dixon Line
24 Bandana

T.L. RANCH
Trades Labour Club
Oxford Street
Castleford
(Weekly Sundays)

5 Mustang (special)
12 Rocky Top Trio
19 Montana
26 Mel Hague
Nick Strutt

CADES COUNTY CMC
Shireoaks M.W.
Nr. Worksop
Notts
(Weekly)

3 Jace Grace
10 Rockytop Trio
17 John Aston Duo
24 8th Anniversary night
Bob McKinlay & Dixie Fried

BURNABY STREET W.M. CLUB
Burnaby Street
Sheffield 6
(Monthly)

25 Dillinger

TUCSON C&W CLUB
Astoria Ballroom
Abbeymount
Edinburgh
(Fortnightly, Wed)

8 Country Partners
22 Prairie Moon
28 Kelly Howard &
Canadian Club
(Special Star show)

WESTERN CMC
St. Thomas Cons. Club
Hindley Street
Stockport
061 483 9532
(Weekly Sunday)

5 Preston Conway Country
12 Bob McKinlay & Dixie Fried
5th Anniversary Show
19 The Cliffsons
26 Kentucky Blue

YORK CMC
The Winning Post
Bishopthorpe Road
York
(Weekly)

2 The Moat Brothers
9 Mel Hague
16 Chris Lawrance Trio
23 Mustang
30 Moonshine

THE HOTEL METRO
17 Market Street
Aberdeen
(Weekly Tuesday)

7 Silver Dollar
Tennessee Express
14 Colorado
Tony Goodacre
21 Linda Cassidy
Dave Bryan
Moonshine
Kelly Howard &
Canadian Club
Manson Grant & Dynamos
28 Gambler
Country Ramblers

K.R.S COUNTRY
Kodak Hall
Headstone Drive
Wealdstone
Middlesex

4 Hobo

B&V CMC
The Walnut Tree
Wharf Road
Gillingham
(Weekly Thursday)

2 Moonshine
9 Jess Country
16 'Obsons Choice
23 Renegade
30 Rouchelles

SUN INN
Norwood, Nr Otley
(Weekly Thursday)

2 Country Sunshine
9 Tennessee Flat Tops
16 Strawberry Wine
23 Chuck Layburn Band
30 Gordie West Duo

WHITE HORSE CMC
Village Hall
Burbage, Wilts

10 Tony Goodacre
Denver Spur

COUNTRYMAN
Newtown, Nr Longnor
Nr Buxton
Derbs
(Weekly Saturdays)
(Longnor 433 or Blythebridge 3791)

4 Wells Fargo
Keith Gosling
11 Natchez Trace
18 Cotton Gin
Colin Ramsey
25 West Virginia
Barry Ford

RUSTLERS CMC
Little Lever Labour Club
Nr Bolton, Lancs
(Weekly Fridays)

3 West Coast
10 Nancy Rivers Band
17 J.J. Grant
24 North Country

WILDWOOD SOUTH CMC
Millbrook School
Maybush
Southampton
(Weekly Saturday)

4 Moonshine
11 Five Cents
18 Sid's Country Disco
25 Linda Cassidy Show

WOLVERHAMPTON CMC
Hollybush, Penn Road
Wolverhampton
West Midlands
(Weekly Sundays)

5 Yellowstone Picnic Band
12 Springfield
19 Lane Travis & Double Eagle
26 American Expression
(Fortnightly Thursdays)

2 J.C. Owens & Mountain Dew
16 West Virginia
30 Cotton Gin

WOLVERHAMPTON CMC
Woodfield S&S Club
Woodfield Avenue (off Penn Rd)
Wolverhampton
(Monthly Saturdays)

4 Johnnie Carter &
Hurricane Ridge

VIKING SHIP CMC
Viking Ship Motel
Pegwell Bay
Nr Ramsgate, Kent
(Weekly Sunday)

LEICESTER CMC
Jesters Lounge
The Braunston
Narborough Road
South Leicester
(Weekly)

1 Expressions
3 Paradox (Barbecue)
8 Cuttin' Loose
15 Wells Fargo
22 Springfield
29 Baretta

LONE RANGER CMC
North Street W.M. Club
Whitwick
Nr Coalville
Leicester
(Weekly Monday)

6 The Bryans
13 Bobby & Late Show
20 Mary Miller & Pennine Express
27 T.B.A.

BORDER CMC
Kings Arms Hotel
Berwick on Tweed

15 Linda Cassidy
Dave Bryan & Moonshine

THE WELCOME CMC
Greyhound Hotel
East Lancs Road
Leigh, Lancs
(Weekly)

5 Harvey
12 The Sundown Band
19 J.R. Taylor
26 Ramuda

RENEGADES CMC
Town Hall
Wirksworth
Derbyshire
(Weekly Saturday - 3 weekly)

4 High Plains Drifter
Gordie West
25 Cuttin' Loose
Shane Peters

LONGHORN C&W CLUB
Stable Bar
White Hart Hotel
Hayle, Cornwall
(Weekly Fridays)

TRIANGLE CMC
Chilham Village Hall
Nr Canterbury
(1st Mon & 3rd Sat)

6 Southbound
25 Gunsmoke

GOLDEN SPUR CMC
Alexander Centre
Faversham, Kent
(Monthly)

11 Tony Falcons Band
Tony Goodacre

WEST WAY CMC
Witney Town F.C.
Oxon Witney 3065
(Weekly Sunday)

5 Les Beckett & Shades of Light
12 Hank Dalton Country Band
19 Hobo
26 George Moody &
Country Squires

Harrow CMC
Wealdstone F.C.
Station Road
Harrow Middlesex
(Weekly Thursdays)

2 Dave Bryan & Moonshine
9 Emeralds
16 Kentucky County
23 George Moody &
Country Squires
26 Sunday
Hard Lines

FOUR ON THE FLOOR CMC
Hounslow F.C. Club
Denbigh Road
Hounslow Middlesex
(Weekly Tuesday)

7 George Moody &
Country Squires
14 Cliff Whelan
21 Mike Burnham Sound
28 Rouchelles

CHICHESTER CMC
St. Georges Hall
Whyke
Chichester
(Fortnightly)

10 Muskrats
25 Sante Fe

MOONRAKER CMC
Huntington Terrace Road
Chadsmoor
Cannock, Staffs
(Weekly Saturdays)

4 Paradox
11 Jimmy Kincaid & The Rustlers
18 Tony Andrews & Raincheck
25 White River Band plus
Jon Adkin

GOLDEN WEST CMC
Carpenters Arms
Fenton
Nr. Torksey, Lincs
(Weekly Sundays)

5 Vince Clayton
Pat & Roger Johns
12 Tony Dallas & Kate
19 Pete Young Duo
26 Barry Richards

064 RAILWAY CLUB
Anlaby Road
Hull
(Weekly Friday)

3 8th Anniversary Show
Muskrats
10 Mel Hague
17 John Carlton
Pat & Roger Johns
24 Silver Brand Trio

TUMBLING SHACK CMC
Greenfield W.M.C.
Dunstable
Doncaster
S. Yorkshire
(approx every 6 weeks)

T.B.A.

CHEQUERS INN
Bishop Thornton
Nr. Harrogate
(Weekly Wednesday)

1 Kentucky Blue
8 Dillinger
15 Bob McKinlay Duo
22 Tennessee Flat Tops
29 Tony Goodacre Duo

TUMBLEDOWNWIND CMC
Royal Victoria Hotel
Llanberis
Gwynedd
(Fortnightly Thursday)

2 Tony Best
Wildwind Country Band
16 Turnbull & Heath
30 Dave Curtis

GROSVENOR ROOMS
Walm Lane
London NW2
every Friday 8pm-2am
(Opposite Willesden Green
Jubilee Tube)
01 451 0066

3 The Jimmy Lawton Show
with Sandi Hart & Levi
10 Yellowstone Picnic Band
Five Cents
17 American Expression
Salt Lake City
24 Cotton Mill Boys
Cool Water

NELLIES'
Grosvenor Rooms
Walm Lane
London
8pm-2am
(Weekly Wednesday)

15 Opening Night: The Muskrats
22 Hickory Lake
29 Ellie Scott Band

Mary Bailey

Canada's International Singer/Songwriter



Following her successful appearance
at the Wembley Silk Cut Festival 1982,
plans a four week tour during
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Some dates available for
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